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The Editor will be glad to receive MS. articles
and also illustrations of current architecture in this
country and abroad with a view to publication.
Though every care will be taken, the Editor cannot
hold himself responsible for material sent him.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 15, 1942.

NUMBER 2451 : VOLUME 95

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The fact that goods made of raw materials in short supply
owing to war conditions are advertised in this JOURNAL
should not be taken as an indication that they are necessarily
available for export.

Owing to the paper shortage the JOURNAL, in common with all
other papers, is now only supplied to newsagents on a "firm
order" basis. This means that newsagents are now unable to
supply the JOURNAL except to a client's definite order.

★ In common with every other periodical and newspaper in the country, this JOURNAL is rationed to a small proportion of its peace-time requirements of paper. This means that it is no longer a free agent printing as many pages as it thinks fit and selling to as many readers as wish to buy it. Instead a balance has to be struck between circulation and number of pages. A batch of new readers may mean that a page has to be struck off, and conversely a page added may mean that a number of readers have to go short of their copy. Thus in everyone's interest, including the reader's, it is important that the utmost economy of paper should be practised, and unless a reader is a subscriber he cannot be sure of getting a copy of the JOURNAL. We are sorry for this but it is a necessity imposed by the war on all newspapers. The subscription is £1 3s. 10d. per annum.



from AN ARCHITECT'S Commonplace Book

"I went to Vienna to take the entrance examination for the Academy of Fine Arts. . . . At the 'Realschule' I was by far the best student in the drawing class. . . .

Adolf Hitler in *Mein Kampf*.

NEWS

M.O.W.B.

In the Diary of the past year, on pages 36-59, we include, under monthly headings, names of people who (a) joined or (b) resigned from the Ministry of Works and Buildings. Below is a list of the chief officers of the Ministry at December 31; and Deputy Directors of Bricks for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland at the end of December.

Minister and First Commissioner of Works.—Rt. Hon. Lord Reith, G.C.V.O., C.B.E., LL.D. *Parliamentary Secretary.*—George Hicks, M.P. *Secretary.*—Sir Geoffrey Whiskard, K.C.M.G., C.B.

Director-General, Works and Buildings.—Hugh E. C. Beaver, M.INST.C.E., M.I.CHEM.E. *Deputy Secretary.*—W. Leitch, C.B.

Principal Assistant Secretaries.—H. L. Davis, O.B.E., E. N. de Normann, C.B., E. J. R. Edwards, H. H. Montgomery, O.B.E., and H. G. Vincent, C.B., C.V.O.

Assistant Secretaries.—R. A. Barker, M.V.O., E. Batch, M.B.E., H. C. Bradshaw, C.B.E., M.ARCH., F.R.I.B.A., J. G. Dower, M.A., F.R.I.B.A., A.M.P.T.I., E. S. Hill, R. M. Hunter, F.A.I., D. L. Macintyre, v.c., E. F. Muir, F. J. E. Raby, C.B., F.S.A., H. W. Spencer, O.B.E., J. G. Stewart, C. J. G. Tate, C.B.E., W. R. Trickett, O.B.E. (Scot.) and T. W. Webster.

Director of Works.—T. P. Bennett, F.R.I.B.A. *Deputy Director of Works.*—D. N. Dyke, O.B.E., F.R.I.B.A.

Assistant Directors of Works.—P. K. Hanton, O.B.E., F.R.I.B.A. (architectural), C. J. Mole, M.V.O., M.B.E., F.R.I.B.A. (architectural), G. C. Wilson, F.R.I.B.A. (architectural), A. G. Ramsey, O.B.E., B.S.C., M.INST.C.E., M.I.MECH.E. (engineering), H. Ryle, C.V.O., O.B.E., A.R.I.B.A., F.S.I. (maintenance), and C. A. Morrison, F.S.I. (quantity surveying.)

Director of Post-war Building and Chief Architect.—Sir James West, O.B.E., F.R.I.B.A. *Controller of Supplies.*—H. B. Allum, C.B.E., M.V.O.

Director of Lands and Accommodation.—P. W. Jupp, O.B.E., F.A.I.

Director of Emergency Works.—Major-General K. C. Appleyard, C.B.E., D.L., M.I.MECH.E.

Director of Standardization.—T. S. Tait, F.R.I.B.A.

Director of Cement.—Rt. Hon. Viscount Wolmer, P.C.

Director of Bricks.—L. W. Hutson, F.R.I.B.A.

Director of Roofing.—R. G. Cromwell.

Director of Constructional Design.—G. Wilson, S.M., B.S.C., M.INST.C.E., A.M.AMER.C.E.

Director of Labour Requirements.—R. M. Wynne-Edwards, D.S.O., M.C., M.A., M.I.C.E.

Comptroller of Accounts.—A. G. Barnett, C.B.E.

Chief Inspector of Ancient Monuments.—J. P. Bushe-Fox, F.S.A., F.R.S.A.

Bailiff of Parks.—F. E. Carter, O.B.E.

Regius Keeper, Royal Botanic Gardens, Edinburgh.—Sir W. W. Smith, M.A., D.E.S.C., F.R.S. (EDIN.), F.L.S.

Publicity Officer.—Harold Lewis.

Deputy Publicity Officer.—Dudley Vernon.

DEPUTY DIRECTORS OF BRICKS.

Scotland, and Northern Ireland.—J. M. Honeyman, Ministry of Works and Buildings, 18, Gordon Street, Glasgow. (Tel.: City 6401.)

Midlands Area, including Warwick, Worcester, Hereford, Shropshire, Staffordshire, Leicester, South Lincolnshire, Rutland, Derby, and Nottingham.—Mr. A. J. Phillips, Ministry of Works and Buildings, Hilton's Chambers, Mardol Head, Shrewsbury. (Tel.: Shrewsbury 2758.)

North-Western Area, including Lancashire, Cheshire, Westmorland, Cumberland, North and Central Wales, and Isle of Man.—Mr. S. Silcock, Ministry of Works and Buildings, Derby House, Exchange Buildings, Liverpool, 2. (Tel.: Liverpool Royal 6119.)

South-Western Area and South Wales, including Wiltshire, Gloucester, Dorset, Somerset, Devon, Cornwall, Monmouth, Glamorgan, Carmarthen, Pembroke, and Brecknock.—Mr. O. Cattlin, Ministry of Works and Buildings, 10, Woodland Road, Bristol, 8. (Tel.: Bristol 33065.)

South-Eastern Area, including Kent, Surrey, Sussex, Hants, Herts, London, Middx, Bucks, Berks, Oxford, Beds, Northampton, Huntingdon, Essex, Cambridge, Suffolk, and Norfolk.—Deputy-Director of Bricks for S.E. Area, Ministry of Works and Buildings, Lambeth Bridge House, Albert Embankment, S.E.1. (Tel.: Reliance 7611.)

North-Eastern Area, including North Lincolnshire, Yorkshire, Durham, and Northumberland.—Mr. G. L. Cruickshank, Ministry of Works and Buildings, Century House, South Parade, Leeds, 1. (Tel.: Leeds 30517.)

ABBREVIATIONS

Abbreviations used in the Diary are: A.R.C.—Architects' Registration Council. B.I.N.C.—Building Industries National Council. B.O.T.—Board of Trade. C.S.I.—Chartered Surveyors' Institution. M.O.H.—Ministry of Health. M.H.S.(R.E.)—Ministry of Home Security (Research and Experiments Department). M.O.W.B.—Ministry of Works and Buildings. M.O.L.—Ministry of Labour and National Service. T.P.I.—Town Planning Institute. D.S.I.R.—Director of Scientific and Industrial Research.



LORD REITH

Lord Reith himself probably hardly realizes what a phenomenon he is in the building world. For the best part of half a century certain stock subjects have served as Aunt Sallies for the architectural profession (and the building papers) whenever things were dull and there was nothing better to discuss. One was the South Bank, another Charing Cross Bridge, and the third a hypothetical Ministry—and Minister—of Building. No one in his senses thought of these as capable of realization since they were reasonable ideas, and the world of that day was not distinguished by a passion for the reasonable. They were just subjects of conversation, like the weather. Now—suddenly—the myth has been found to be not a figment but a reality, the deep has parted—to reveal a marvel, an architectural Lochness Monster, a real Minister of Works and Buildings. One moreover who has shown a sharp idea of what planning is all about.

Functions of Ministry of Works and Buildings, outlined by C. R. Attlee in House of Commons. Personnel of M.O.W.B. given overleaf.

Ministry will be responsible for erection of all new civil works and buildings required by any other Government department. It will take over to begin with the whole organization of H.M. Office of Works, including their present responsibilities for erection of buildings for other civil departments and for service departments, and work of the Ministry of Supply, including new building section of the Ordnance Factories, and approval of plans of new private factories or extensions of existing private factories, to cost of which the Ministry of Supply is contributing. Highly specialized work at present carried out by Service Departments either by direct labour or through contractors (such as civil engineering works of Admiralty; construction of aerodromes or aerodrome buildings; fortification and defence works); work overseas will remain with Service Departments. Responsibility for maintenance and repairs of buildings and equipment in use by Service Department or Ministry of Supply will remain with those departments, except in so far as a transfer to M.O.W.B. may be mutually agreed to be convenient. M.O.W.B. will be responsible for licensing of private buildings, and for determining priority of proposals for re-building buildings damaged by air raids. It may arrange, by agreement with Service Departments or Ministry of Aircraft Production, to erect on their behalf new works and buildings not of a highly specialized character, such as stores or depots or houses and buildings of an architectural nature, and for supervision of contracts for erection of new private factories or extension of existing private factories required for war production.

The Production Council will lay down general order of priority of building work. The Minister will be a member of the Production Council and responsible for Works and Buildings Priority Committee. He will determine the application of directions of the Production Council to priority of particular buildings subject to appeal, if necessary to Council.

The Minister will be empowered to call on all departments retaining responsibility for erection and maintenance of buildings and works of construction (including departments concerned with work carried out by or on behalf of local authorities or public utility undertakings) to furnish from time to time such information as he may require as to present and prospective demands of themselves and their contractors for labour and materials, and any points ancillary thereto. Minister will be responsible for such control or central purchase of building materials not at present controlled as may be necessary. Minister will take steps to institute research into such questions as the adoption of substitutes for building materials which are in short supply, or modification of designs and specifications with a view to expedition, and, to assure that results of past and future research are promptly communicated to all concerned. For this purpose he will make full use of building research organization of D.S.I.R. He will be empowered to call on Departments retaining responsibility for building to satisfy him that they are making full use of the results of research in this connection.



SPECIAL NEW YEAR MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER TO THE ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL

IN the building industry 1941 has been a year of change and preparation for change. Both industry and Ministry have been estimating resources and considering their problems. Some important steps have been taken, all as part of the policy of securing maximum effort from the industry with a diminishing labour force and with all the difficulties of war-time building.

Among new developments are the establishment of the Central Council for Works and Buildings, the registration of builders, and the introduction of the Essential Work Order, bringing with it the guaranteed week and the principle of payment by results, now applied to a large proportion of all building work. Government programmes are controlled by allocation of labour which took the place of the old priority system. Welfare arrangements are well in hand. The control of building materials has continued—largely by voluntary agreement, and the standardisation of equipment and materials, notably bricks, has been developed.

There is bound to be criticism, and at times friction, when events move so rapidly as war-time exigencies demand. But the Ministry is grateful for the large measure of co-operation which it has received from all interests in the industry, professional men, contractors and labour. We have to face equal difficulties this year; the labour force must be further reduced. It is essential, therefore, that there be greater output than we are yet getting. And we must aim at keeping the industry, however much reduced, in such a state that it can be rapidly and efficiently expanded after the war for the work of reconstruction.

J. C. W. REITH

DIARY for NINETEEN-FORTY-ONE

JANUARY

Each month of the year takes two pages. On the right will be found illustrations of buildings and events against the month in which they were published in the JOURNAL; also refreshers on particular subjects. The notes and the refreshers are cross-referenced. The columns of the diary read right down the double page: the first column on this page, for instance, is continued in the first column on page 37.

1. Committees and Appointments

M.O.W.B., **A**, formed in October, 1940, well under way. T. S. Tait, F.R.I.B.A. (Sir John Burnet, Tait and Lorne), appointed *Director of Standardization*; Col. C. L. Howard Humphreys (Howard Humphreys and Sons, Consulting Engineers), *Director of Works*. Letters to *The Times* by Sir Reginald Blomfield and G. Langley Taylor: "Appointment of Director of Standardization gives rise to grave doubts and fears" of "standardized buildings in the latest modernistic fashion." P.R.I. B.A. replied that Tait's appointment and its aims had support of majority of architects.

M.O.W.B. formed committee to consider *Cement Production*. Terms of reference: To consider and report to the M.O.W.B. whether, bearing in mind the probable demands for cement in meeting current needs and in post-war reconstruction, and in taking into consideration economic, strategic, and other factors affecting the allocation of cement, new cement works should be established, existing ones extended or old plant modernized; and, if so, what general considerations, financial, geographical and economic, should apply.

Members: George Balfour, M.P.* Chairman; R. Bullock, F. C. Cook, C.B., D.S.O., George Parker, R. Coppock, A. Deakin, T. S. M.P., W. G. Hannah; Col. the Rt. Hon. Sir George Courthope, Bt., M.P.; Dean of Norwich; Canon H. W. Bradfield; W. Curtis Green, R.A.; Archdeacon of Liverpool; Secretary, E. H. Johnson, 1, Millbank, S.W.1.

Gerald Eve: President, C.S.I., 1932-33, F. R. Evershed, K.C., Chairman, Central Price Regulation Committee; called to Bar, 1923. James Wylie, Barrister; called to Bar, 1901; author of various legal text-books. (Interim report was published in July. White Paper. Cmd. 6291. H.M.S.O. 3d.) Formation of Committee on Reconstruction and Post-War Problems announced in House of Commons. Object of Committee:

Close study of problems of reconstruction which may arise after the war, including rebuilding of our social services, re-creation of Britain's commercial markets at home and overseas, and coordination of Colonial and other Empire activities. (Stated that when end of war could more clearly be seen special Ministry should be set up to give effect to these plans). Chairman: Arthur Greenwood, Minister without Portfolio.

Names announced of members of Archbishops' Commission on Damaged or Destroyed Churches (Commission appointed in November, 1940). Members:

Bishop of London, Chairman; Bishops of Winchester and Portsmouth; Earl Grey; Sir Philip Baker-Wilbraham, Bt.; J. R. Brown, Hon. R. D. Denman, M.P., W. G. Hannah; Col. the Rt. Hon. Sir George Courthope, Bt., M.P.; Dean of Norwich; Canon H. W. Bradfield; W. Curtis Green, R.A.; Archdeacon of Liverpool; Secretary, E. H. Johnson, 1, Millbank, S.W.1.

4. Honours (Civil)

Royal Gold Medal for Architecture, 1941, awarded to Frank Lloyd Wright, eminent American Architect. Wright wired R.I.B.A.: "You propose a great honour. I accept. Gratified that during this terrific war England can think of honouring an architect. A culture like that can never lose."

Prime Minister, accepting Hon. Associate of R.I.B.A., wrote to President: "I am grateful to you and Council for the honour which you do me, and I shall be proud to be associated with such an illustrious body." New Year's Honours List: O.B.E.: F. Dorrington Ward (F.R.I.B.A.), Government Architect, Singapore; John Wilson, Chief Architect,



Forty-eight hours before New Year's Day 1941, the big incendiary blitz on London took place, during which over a score of famous buildings were destroyed, including several of Wren's churches and the printers of this Journal. St. Paul's was hit by incendiaries but, owing to the efficiency of its fire-fighting force, was not damaged; the buildings surrounding the

Cook, C.B., D.S.O., George Parker, R. Coppock, A. Deakin, J. S. Holmes, M.P., P. E. Thomas, F.R.I.B.A., and Sir William McLin- tock, Bt. Secretary : C. I. Bosanquet.

(Interim report of Committee published in June. H.M.S.O. Price 2d.)

Formation of Expert Committee on Compensation and Betterment⁶ announced by Lord Reith in House of Lords. Terms of reference :

To make an objective analysis of the subject of the payment of compensation and recovery of betterment in respect of public control of the use of land : To advise, as a matter of urgency, what steps should be taken now or before the end of the war to prevent the work of reconstruction thereafter being prejudiced. In this connection the Committee are asked : to consider (a) possible means of stabilizing the value of land required for development or redevelopment, and (b) any extension or modification of powers to enable such land to be acquired by the public on an equitable basis ; to examine the merits and demerits of the methods considered and to advise what alterations of the existing law would be necessary to enable them to be adopted. (The latter part of these terms of reference made it clear that the Government did not intend that reconstruction after the war should be hampered or prejudiced in any way by speculative transactions or any other such individual operations carried out in advance.

Members :

Mr. Justice Utthwatt, Chairman, Judge in High Court, Called to Bar, 1904. Junior Counsel to Treasury and Board of Trade, 1934. Chairman of Government Committees on Responsibility for Repair of Premises Damaged by Hostilities ; Liability for war damage to the subject matter of Contracts ; and Principles of Assessment of War Damage to Property. James Barr, V.P., Chartered Surveyors' Institution and Leading Scottish Surveyor.

3. Law Prosecution, at Aylesbury, of a firm of estate agents who

2. Practice Department of Health for Scotland. Knight Bachelor, Frank Brangwyn, R.A.

Publication by R.I.B.A. of typical example showing working of R.I.B.A., Register of Employment.

Stated that efforts to find work for unemployed members were constantly defeated by proceedings of these members. Opportunity arose for obtaining positions for large number of members. Result : 32 did not answer letter sent to them ; 18 replied that they were not in need of employment ; 4 had changed address and letter failed to reach them ; 2 made appointments to interview employer but did not keep appointment or send any explanation ; 11 refused appointments offered on ground that the salary was inadequate ; 7 accepted appointments offered to them.

President of R.I.B.A. discussed with officials of Home Office the question of Fees which should be properly charged for work done in connection with shelters under A.R.P. Department Circular 110/1939 by architects. Agreed that where a total of £2,000 in value was made up by a number of small shelters, varying in size and character, fees should be based on shelters as separate contracts, and that they should be increased according to scale of R.I.B.A. taking, however, basic charge as 5 per cent. instead of 6 per cent.

6. Obituary

Stockholm : Gunnar Asplund, Sweden's most notable modern architect. Designer of Stockholm Exhibition, 1930, first big exhibition to be designed coherently and wholly in modern manner.

London : Sir William Llewellyn, Past President, Royal Academy, HON. A.R.I.B.A.

Home Security Bulletin, No. C.15. *Strengthening Steel-framed Sheet Buildings against Collapse due to Air Attack.* Free from R. & E. Dept., Princes Risborough, Aylesbury.

7. Publications

Convalescent Home, Surrey, by W. H. Ansell, President of the R.I.B.A. This is not a "modern" building in the special sense of the term but a very welcoming one, which appears admirably to fit its site. There are fine big windows to the wards getting all the sun and a straightforward sensible plan. There is a certain dignity to the whole, and when classical detail is used, as in the crowning flèche and the doorway in the courtyard, it is used with simplicity and discretion (page 63).

Cathedral were gutted and, on January 1, 1941, blasting of dangerous ruins in the area was in progress. As will be seen from the above photograph, London, on New Year's Day 1941, was a city of smoke.



5. George Cross

George Cross : Lieut. (Acting Major) Herbert J. L. Barefoot, R.E., A.R.I.B.A., for most conspicuous gallantry in carrying out hazardous work in a very brave manner.



The buildings illustrated in the Diary pages (under the months they appeared in the JOURNAL) are those discussed by Professor C. H. Reilly in his review of the year's work, printed on pages 60-63. The italic captions beneath each illustration are quotations from the article ; the page number on which each comment appears is also given. This is the Zachary Merton Convalescent Home, Surrey, by W. H. Ansell, President of the R.I.B.A. This is not a "modern" building in the special sense of the term but a very welcoming one, which appears admirably to fit its site. There are fine big windows to the wards getting all the sun and a straightforward sensible plan. There is a certain dignity to the whole, and when classical detail is used, as in the crowning flèche and the doorway in the courtyard, it is used with simplicity and discretion (page 63).

F E B R U A R Y

8. Committees and Appointments

National Buildings Record (formed at end of 1940) started work. Treasury allocated sum sufficient to establish and maintain a small organization.

Objects : 1. Making of a central index of records of buildings preserved in England and Wales. (This work has been proceeding for many years in hands of Architectural Graphic Records Committee whose index was placed at disposal of new body). 2. Recording of architecturally important buildings, especially those in vulnerable areas.

2. Documentation of war damage to buildings of historic, artistic and scientific value. Personnel : Director, W. H. Godfrey, F.R.I.B.A.; Assistant Director, John Summer-son, A.R.I.B.A.

Above Committee to work under general supervision and direction of following Advisory Council :

Chairman, Sir Wilfred Greene, P.C. (Master of Rolls); W. H. Ansell, P.R.I.B.A.; A. W. Clapham, C.B.E. (Secretary, Royal Commission on Historical Monuments); Sir Kenneth Clark, K.C.B.; Very Rev. Dr. D. H. S. Cranage; Dean of Norwich; Earl of Crawford and Balcarres; C. H. Chettle, F.S.A.; Mrs. Arundell Esdaile; H. S. Goodhart-Rendel, F.R.I.B.A.; Lord Harlech, G.C.M.G., f; Sir Charles Peers, F.R.I.B.A.; and Prof. A. E. Richardson, F.R.I.B.A.

W. G. Holford, A.R.I.B.A., invited by Lord Reith to undertake research work as a preliminary to scheme for national reconstruction.

Appointments by M.O.W.B. : Major - General Appleyard, C.B.E., Director of Emergency Reconstruction within Building

15. Honours (Civil)

F. G. Baker, Chief Clerk of R.I.B.A., presented with an address as token of Institute's appreciation of his forty years' service with that Body.

16. Obituary

C. F. A. Voysey, aged 83, one of Britain's most notable figures in architecture and allied arts and Royal Gold Medallist 1940. Robert Donat, his nephew, in an appreciation wrote :

Usually I called him "Uncle Charlie" until I got into trouble for it. It turned out that he hated abbreviations and pet names of any sort. From then on it was Uncle Charles. He was clean and prim and gentle, but of a firm disposition.

Howard Robertson, in *R.I.B.A. Journal* wrote :

There is something indubitably permanent in Voysey's achievement of mass and grouping, and this furtherance of homely tradition in his masses of white wall, grouped windows and stretches of green roofs. These, in their day, startled layman and architect alike by the simplicity of the appeal which they made on behalf of form and materials happily combined.

Killed on Active Service : W. H. J. Hobday (A.R.I.B.A.) P.O., R.A.F., A. L. B. Raven (A.R.I.B.A.) P.O., R.A.F.

17. The Air

Two broadcast talks "Modern Movements in Architecture," by C. H. Reilly.



School at Ecclesfield. By Sir John Burnet, Tait and Lorne. F. MacManus, Assistant. *The most interesting thing about the design is that it is a steel frame one with the buildings everywhere raised above the ground, in most places sufficiently high to form covered playgrounds. The steel frame means, too, movable partitions inside and the fine liquidity that implies* (page 61).

Priority Department of Ministry ; Paul Gilbert, Director of Building Programmes ; R. G. Cromwell, Director of Roofing ; Dr. Guthlac Wilson, Director of Constructional Design. Under Director of Bricks : George Gee, Assistant Director in charge of Brick Stocks ; E. H. Palmer, Deputy Director of Bricks (London) ; W. H. Henderson, Commercial Adviser. Also, five deputy directors were appointed for various areas.
† Resigned from this position in November

Scottish Development Council appointed a committee to make investigations and formulate recommendations for a post-war economic plan for Scotland : Chairman, Earl of Elgin.

Coventry C.C. adopted a comprehensive redevelopment scheme for central areas of city devastated in air raid in November, 1940.

9. Planning and Reconstruction

Within framework of the study of post-war problems to be undertaken by the Minister without Portfolio,* I have been charged with a special responsibility for seeing that all practical preparations are made now for the reconstruction of town and country. Physical reconstruction is a definite and distinct section of post-war problems. I am now selecting a small staff, with the necessary knowledge, to work with me at the centre, and am inviting a dozen or twenty individuals who have special experience in this field to help me, and to be

Swanson Street, Auckland, C.1, New Zealand.

13. Housing and A.R.P.

Following resolution passed at meeting of A.A.S.T.A. and National A.R.P. Co-ordinating Committee : This meeting of councillors and chief administrative officers of local authorities, coming from 30 councils in London area, expresses its disquiet at effects of Government A.R.P. policy on provision of measures of safety, health and welfare of people in London area. It expresses its opinion that a much higher standard of safety, health and welfare are both necessary and practicable. Opinions to substantiate these statements were given and final conclusion reached was : "Concerted action by local authorities to secure such a change is necessary, and those present agree to work for furtherance of such concerted action."

Resigned from this position in November

Lord Reith, in debate in House of Lords :

Within framework of the study of post-war problems to be undertaken by the Minister without Portfolio,* I have been charged with a special responsibility for seeing that all practical preparations are made now for the reconstruction of town and country. Physical reconstruction is a definite and distinct section of post-war problems. I am now selecting a small staff, with the necessary knowledge, to work with me at the centre, and am inviting a dozen or twenty individuals who have special experience in this field to help me, and to be

O.B.E. (Military Division) : Captain J. H. Emlyn Jones, R.E. (P.A.S.I.), in recognition of conspicuous gallantry in carrying out work in a very brave manner.

14. Honours (Military) Mentioned in Dispatches : Lt. G. S. Kelly, R.E. (A.R.I.B.A.) for distinguished services in field, March-June 1940.

Captain J. H. Emlyn Jones, R.E. (P.A.S.I.), in recognition of conspicuous gallantry in carrying out work in a very brave manner.

18. Publications

Wartime Bulletin, C.12. Single Storey Wartime Factory Designs. H.M.S.O., 6d.

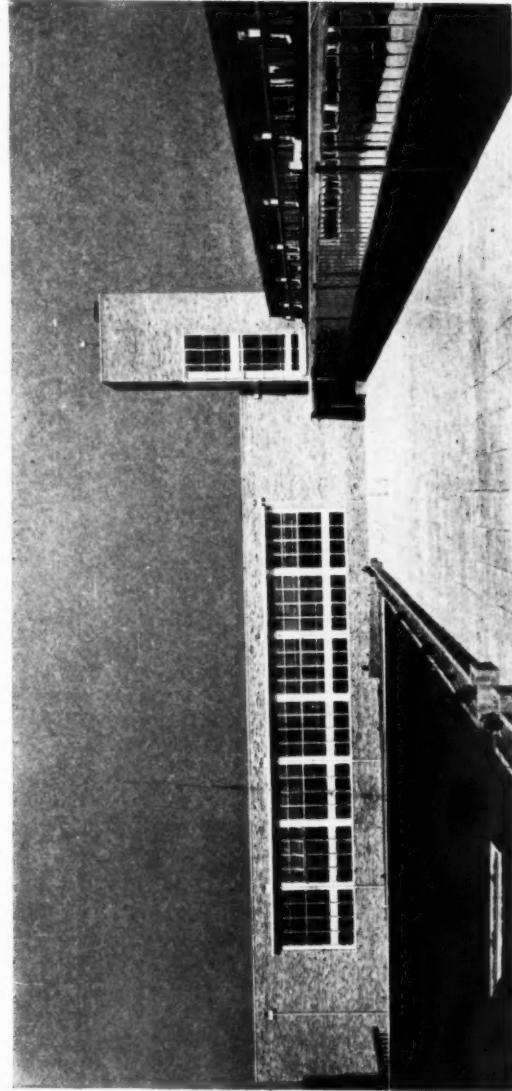
Fourth Report of Select Committee on National Expenditure. H.M.S.O., 9d. Wartime Bulletin No. 13. Fire Protection of Structural Steel-work. H.M.S.O., 6d.

Publication, by R.I.B.A. of Industrial Housing in Wartime : the results of the competition organized by the R.I.B.A. Price 2s. 3d. post free. This book summarizes problems of wartime housing and alternative solutions, and describes and illustrates winning schemes in Institute's industrial housing competition.

1st prize, Design for a Wartime House, £250, by Miss J. G. Ledeboer and George Fairweather. 1st prize, Estate Plan, £100, by Grenfell Baines, John Ashforth, S. E. Catterall and T. Mellor.



C. F. Annesley Voysey, aged 83. Died on February 12. "Mr. Voysey's *bête noire* was materialism. He owed far more to his father for the style of his architecture than to Morris, as has been supposed, for he would say, 'Morris is too much of an artist for me.' He disliked the flat roof as 'un-English'; he despised the Renaissance because it came from Italy. His sympathies were all with Gothic, and his later competition designs were always in the Gothic style, with a strong Voysey individual note." —JOHN BETJEMAN.



Meir Junior and Infants' Schools, Stoke-on-Trent. J. R. Piggott, Chief Architect ; W. I. Watson, Assistant Architect for Educational Buildings. School at Meir with long ranges of low buildings largely glass, a tower and a grand paved terrace for drilling, is a mixed junior and infants' school for 600 children. It appears from the photographs to be near a housing estate, which, though of the usual municipal pattern, looks quite silly behind it. The children should live in the school with its fine simple shapes instead of in the houses and use the latter for games (page 60).

M A R C H

A. R.I.B.A. RECONSTRUCTION COM.

MITTEE, set up at beginning of the year. List of members published in ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL for April 10. Six groups formed to deal with the following subjects:—1, Professional Status and Qualifications; 2, Planning and Amenities; 3, Housing; 4, Building Legislation; 5, Building Industry; 6, Building Technique. Four interim reports published by Group 1 (JOURNAL for January 1, 1942); Groups 2 and 3 (JOURNAL for September 4); Group 4 (JOURNAL for November 20). First group's report, entitled "Reconstruction and the Architectural Profession," dealt with following points: relation between architectural and planning functions in the reconstruction period; design and external appearance of buildings; status of the official architect; the building industry after the war; with three appendices: *a*, editing designs; *b*, notes on the "Control of Design and the External Appearance of Buildings"; *c*, questions for further investigation. Second Group's report, "Planning and Amenities," emphasized that planning in future must be constructive, not restrictive in character; and that a plan must be ready to be put into operation as soon as possible, in any case immediately the end of hostilities is in sight. Research work should be immediately undertaken with this end in view. Problems that will have to be faced in connection with urban areas include:—

- (i) the reconstruction of existing towns; (ii) extension of existing towns; (iii) the recentering of existing towns; (iv) provision of suitable new towns. Third Group's report, "Housing," divided into nine sections, recommended five points:—(1) Greater co-ordination among planning authorities responsible for single family peace-time standard houses should be abandoned in favour of hostel dwellings providing minimum living and sleeping accommodation with communal facilities for feeding, heating, washing and relaxation; (2) that the choice between permanent and temporary building types be governed by long term as well as by immediate consideration; (4) that of the permanent types two and three storied structures should be built with the maximum amount of standardization. This accommodation should be designed so as to be converted later into peace-time housing standards; (5) that important economies in site layout should not be overlooked. Fourth Group's report, "Building Legislation—Structural," divided into three sections—1, existing building legislation; 2, Recommendations; 3, National Building Board

planning authorities is required in order to produce a worthy co-ordinated plan for London that I suggest that there should be a pooling here also, and that these authorities should create a Planning Board for London. It should have the finest architects and town planners in the country in its ranks, because of their definite training in the subject and their power of considering a planning problem from every point of view.

24. Planning and Reconstruction

War Executive Committee of R.I.B.A. sent Memorandum to Lord Reith on Reconstruction. Memorandum stated:

Right and duty of R.I.B.A. that knowledge of its members should be fully used in preparations for reconstruction as well as in its physical execution. R.I.B.A. not merely learned society concerned with preservation of antiquities and adornment of individual buildings, since members have experience of all problems which reconstruction involves. Reconstruction policy should be fully defined before plans are prepared. Plans should be fully prepared before execution begins. Minister replied:

R.I.B.A. would be asked to nominate representatives to Committee Panel which was to be set up. (This Panel was set up on April 1; for list of members, see page 42.)

Members of War Damage Commission announced in House of Commons by Sir Kingsley Wood. Members: A. M. Trustram Eve, K.C. (Chairman); Joseph Hallsworth (Secretary-General, National Union of Distributive and Allied Trades); Alexander MacDonald (General Manager of Royal Exchange Assurance); Charles Mackintosh, M.C., K.C.; John Morison (Chartered Accountant); G. L. Viger (Chartered Surveyor); Sir William E. Whyte, O.B.E. (Housing Expert in Scotland); Secretary, F.P. Robinson, son, C.B.

19. Committees and Appointments

Formation of R.I.B.A. Reconstruction Committee. A. Terms of reference:

To consider and formulate the policy of the R.I.B.A. and Allied Societies on the subject of post-war reconstruction and planning in its widest aspect and to report to the R.I.B.A. Council. Committee divided itself up into small groups: *Professional Status and Qualifications Group*.—To consider the position of architects in relation to a National Planning Authority and its Regional and Local Administration, both as regards the actual planning work and as regards the supervision of building operations; to consider the part that architects in private practice can play through advisory boards, consultative panels and the like, by reason of their relations with, and their knowledge of, the general public; to consider the position of official architects and their status in public or Government services in relation to other professions; to consider an architect's qualifications for town-planning in view of the probable shortage of qualified men after and during the war; to consider the possibility of including town-planning in an architect's curriculum of education, either as a pre-graduate or post-graduate course, the possibility of organizing short courses on town-planning for qualified architects now in practice or in official positions, and the possibility of demobilization courses on town-planning for architects and students now in the armed forces; and to report. *Planning and Amenities Group*.—To consider urban and rural amenities such as the relations between industry and population, and open spaces, schools, cinemas, public buildings, licensed premises,

21. Reservation

25. Honours (Civil)

Hon. Fellows R.I.B.A.: Lord Reith and Sir Wilfred Greene, Master of Rolls and Chairman of National Buildings Record.

26. Obituary

Housing Group.—To consider housing accommodation, both urban and rural, as regards planning, fittings, finishings, etc., and to recommend appropriate standards. *Building Legislation Group.*—*Building Technique Group.*

Members :

*W. H. Ansell (President, R.I.B.A.), *Michael Waterhouse (Hon. Secretary, R.I.B.A.), *L. Sylvester Sullivan (Hon. Treasurer, R.I.B.A.), *Wesley Dougill, *Joseph Hill, J. G. Ledebur, *Edward Maufe, *S. C. Ramsey, *Howard Robertson, *Raglan Squire, *W. Harding Thompson, Patrick Abercrombie, T. A. Darcy Braddell, D. L. Bridgewater, A. C. Bunch, H. Chalton Bradshaw, W. R. Davidge, John Dower, J. B. Drew, J. Murray Easton, Sir Banister Fletcher, J. H. Forshaw, E. Maxwell Fry, H. S. Goodhurt-Rendel, Stanley Hamp, F. R. Hions, Charles Holden, G. A. Jellicoe, H. V. Lanchester, Julian Leathart, Hubert Lidbetter, J. L. Martin, Brian Peake, C. H. Reilly, A. E. Richardson, Daniel Roth, Godfrey Samuel, Sir Giles Gilbert Scott, R.A., R. H. Sheppard, J. Alan Slater, C. G. Soutar, John N. Summerson, T. S. Tait, Ralph Tubbs, A. H. Verstager, and F. R. S. Yorke.

Those marked with an asterisk appointed to serve on the executive committee of the reconstruction committee. In addition each of the Regional Reconstruction Committees set up jointly by the Allied Societies appointed a representative to serve on the Reconstruction Committee. Committee appointed a Publicity Sub-Committee with the following terms of reference :

Generally to further interest in the work of the architectural profession, and in particular to spread the views of the R.I.B.A. on reconstruction. 1st and 2nd Interim Reports published in August, 1. *Planning and Amenities*, 2. *Housing*, 3rd publication in November ; *Building Legislation—Structural*, 4th published in December ; *Reconstruction and the Architectural Profession*.

architects should be reserved on existing lines.

22. Practice

Five years' Diploma Course of Nottingham School of Architecture recognized for exemption from R.I.B.A. Final Examination.

Victor S. Peel elected President of I.A.A.S. Chairman of Council, J. E. Swindlehurst ; Vice-Chairman, C. H. Taylor.

John Bishop elected Chairman of South Wales Institute of Architects for year commencing July 1.

Retirement of C. H. Riley, Bucks County Architect ; W. G. Brown, Deputy County Architect, appointed temporary County Architect in an acting capacity for duration of war.

23. Speeches

In general debate in House of Commons, three points were strongly emphasized :

(1) The Ministry of Building—or a Ministry of Planning forming part of it—will have enormous responsibilities when peace comes. (2) Thought must be given now to the organization of the Ministry to enable it to discharge these great duties. (3) It is generally suspected that older Ministries regarded the newcomer with some distaste and are trying to secure, or retain, for themselves powers which should logically belong to the Ministry of Building.

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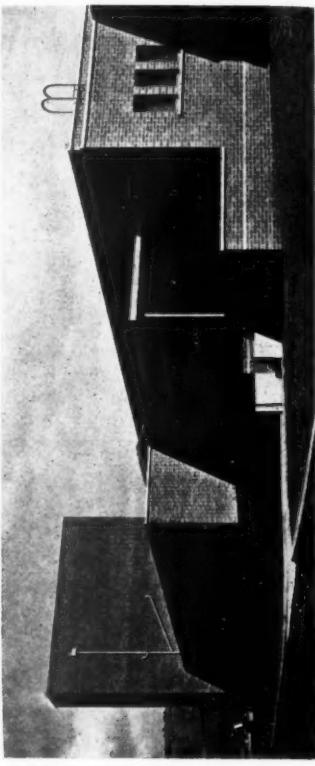
1st and 2nd Interim Reports published in August, 1. *Planning and Amenities*, 2. *Housing*, 3rd publication in November ; *Building Legislation—Structural*, 4th published in December ; *Reconstruction and the Architectural Profession*.

—stressed that there should be a National Building Board responsible to Parliament but not incorporated in the machinery of Government administration.

B. WAR DAMAGE COMMISSION.—War Damage Act

Damage Act was passed on March 26. Under Section 7 of the Act Treasury issued directions to commissioners enabling them to exercise powers in conformity with town and country planning requirements. Directions summarized in JOURNAL for August 28, together with explanatory speech by Mr. A. M. Trustram Eve, chairman of Commission. Machinery must be put in motion by local authorities who may or may not act. Initiative left with them. Commissioners can only exercise discretionary powers after local authority has decided that severe damage offers opportunity for replanning. Local authority must notify commissioners that they wish powers under Section 7 to be exercised in relation to whole or part of its area or to certain classes of property or certain works. If commission decides to act it must publish notice in *London Gazette* to effect that area, etc., has been specified ; no work on war damaged buildings can then be undertaken without first notifying commissioners unless value of work is less than £1,000 and also less than ten times annual value. Commission must consult local authority and appropriate Government department when application is made : if scheme is said to be contrary to public interest several methods of bringing pressure to bear exist.

N.B.—If local authorities have no plans prepared there is no way of knowing what is or is not contrary to public interest.



Clay Cross Colliery Baths, Derbyshire. By Miners' Welfare Commission.
The finest range of modern buildings in the country. These buildings when once erected across them are always better than any. They seem to follow some inner spiritual light of their own, for their functionalism never leads them into gaucherie (page 63).

26. Obituary

S. D. Meadowes, F.R.I.B.A., Principal Architect and Surveyor to Commissioners of Crown Lands. Aged 52. Formerly Superintendent Architect, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, and Housing Inspector, M.O.H.

27. A.R.P.

M.O.W.B. took steps to secure proper treatment of historic buildings damaged in air raids. Selected local architects with special knowledge of historic buildings in their districts to assist and advise local authorities before and during work of demolition and removal of debris.

28. U.S. Housing

Details published in JOURNAL for March 27 of U.S. Navy's housing schemes, in which prefabricated units were used.

29. Publications

Fire Protection of Structural Steelwork. Wartime Bulletin No. 13. *Centerless Arch Construction*. Wartime Bulletin No. 14. Price 1s. H.M.S.O. Fourth and Fifth Reports of Select Committee on National Expenditure. H.M.S.O., 9d. and 2d. respectively. (Fifth Report contains in reference to militia camps and their building and suggestions for future.)

Fire Protection Devices. Institution of Electrical Engineers. *Town and Country Planning*, by Geoffrey Bounphrey. Nelson and Sons, 2s. 6d.

APRIL

30. Committees and Appointments

Following persons appointed by Lord Reith to advise him on physical planning aspects of post-war reconstruction :

Patrick Abercrombie, F.R.I.B.A., Professor of Town Planning, Chairman, London University; Member of Royal Commission on Distribution of Industrial Population; W. H. Ansell, P.R.I.B.A.; Lord Balfour of Burleigh (Chairman, 1940 Council); Sir Montague Barlow, Bt., K.B.E., LL.D. (Chairman of the Royal Commission on Industrial Population); Rt. Hon. Sir Walter Citrine, K.B.E. (General Secretary, Trades Union Congress); Sir George Etherton, K.B.E. (Clerk of the Lancashire C.C., Chairman of the Society of Clerks of County Councils); W. H. Gaunt, C.B.E. (Member of the Herefordshire C.C., Advisory Council and Town Planning Institute); T. W. Haward, M.T.P.I. (Past President of Land Agents' Society); Mrs. Lionel Hitchens (Member of the Royal Commission on Distribution of Industrial Population); F. R. Hiorns, F.R.I.B.A.; (Formerly Chief Architect to L.C.C.); L. H. Keay, F.R.I.B.A. (City Architect and Director of Housing, Liverpool); T. Alwyn Lloyd, J.P., F.R.I.B.A., P.P.T.P.I. Member of Executive Committee of the Council for the Preservation of Rural Wales); Sir Miles Mitchell, J.P. (Alderman, City of Manchester); Richard L. Moon (Clerk of the Gloucestershire C.C. Member of the T.P.I.); F. J. Osborn (Hon. Secretary to the Garden Cities and Town Planning Association); D. A. Radley, L.L.B. (Town Clerk of Leeds); P.P.T.P.I.; L. Dudley Stamp, D.Sc. (Director of the Land Utilization Survey, Professor of Economic Geography, London School of Economics); Eva G. R. Taylor, D.Sc. (Professor

by an appropriate Government Department. Under the old regulations works under £500 were exempt from licence or authorization; under the new order only works under £100 are exempt. Works carried out by, or at the expense (in whole or in part) of a Government Department, or by a local authority under the Civil Defence Acts, 1937 and 1939, are, however, excluded from the operation of the Order, since they are adequately controlled through the Departments concerned.

(b) In the event of more than one building being undertaken within any period of 12 months, a licence or authorization is obligatory where the aggregate cost of these operations will exceed £100. In estimating the amount to be spent on the operation, the cost of decorative work and also of works to provide water, light, heating, and other services, must be included.

32. Planning and Reconstruction

L.C.C. asked by M.O.W.B. to prepare plans for reconstruction of London. Decided that plan should be undertaken by Architect to Council and Director of Housing, Liverpool, and his staff. Professor Abercrombie appointed consultant.

36. Reservation

Under New Schedule of Reserved Occupations architects were reserved at 35.

37. Crystal Palace

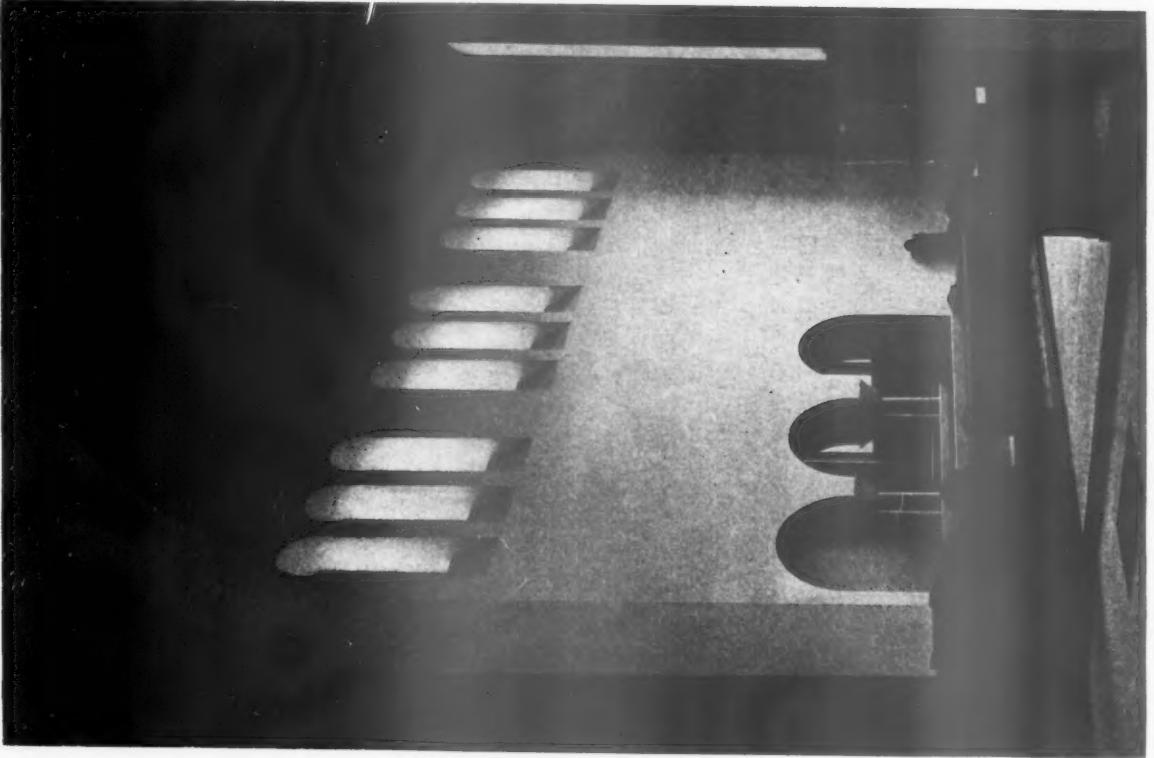
Demolition of North Tower of Crystal Palace took place on April 16—last surviving piece of Paxton's famous building.

33. Surveyors

of Geography of London University at Birkbeck College); G. W. Thomson (President of the National Federation of Surveyors);

38. Exhibitions

Church at Gloucester. By W. E. Ellery Anderson. The interior, spacious looking and plain, with round arches to the windows and to the nave arcades and with a big arch at the entrance to the chancel, is plain and strong and imposing (page 62).



Smith and Chaplin, was in the alternative as executors of Arnold Dunbar Smith, deceased, for damages and infringement of copyright in the architectural drawings and plans made by Smith and Brewer for part of building occupied by Heals in Tottenham Court Road and in the building as an architectural work. C. Harman, K.C., and J. Mould appeared for plaintiffs and M. Shelley, K.C., and G. Aldous represented defendants. Hearing occupied court nine days and there were one thousand exhibits in case, including plans, drawings and photographs. Reserved judgment was given on July 31: infringement of copyright had taken place; his lordship assessed damages at £150. The full judgment—a lengthy one—was reprinted in full in ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL for August 14. The question of costs came before the court in December, when it was announced that defendants should pay plaintiffs' half of their costs of the action.

Church at Gloucester. By W. E. Ellery Anderson. The interior, spacious looking and plain, with round arches to the windows and to the nave arcades and with a big arch at the entrance to the chancel, is plain and strong and imposing (page 62).

C. MEIKLE v. MAUFE.—Mr. Justice Uthwatt took

33. Speeches

First press conference held by Lord Reith at the M.O.W.B. He stated : Compensation and betterment were problems which must be solved first of all if any measurable amount of good planning was to take place ; and legislation to clear the field would follow report of Uthwatt Committee. Secondly, "test plans" were being prepared by blitzed cities ; these plans would not lay down what was going to happen so much as to show clearly what the big obstacles were to comprehensive development. Results of investigations would be examined by a small group of planning experts. These experts would meet on April 23.

34. Air Raid Damage

H. G. Vincent, H. C. Bradshaw, F.R.I.B.A., John Dower, F.R.I.B.A., and W. G. Holford, F.R.I.B.A. Staff Experts :

H. G. Vincent, H. C. Bradshaw, F.R.I.B.A., John Dower, F.R.I.B.A., and W. G. Holford, F.R.I.B.A.

M.O.W.B. appointments :

Sir Geoffrey Whiskard, K.C.M.G., C.B., Permanent Secretary; Hugh Beaver, M.I.N.S.T.C.E., Director-General, Works and Buildings; William Leitch, Deputy Secretary, and to act as Secretary until Whiskard* (British High Commissioner in Australia, whose five-year term of office had just expired) able to take up position.

* Whiskard took up his appointment in November.

38. Exhibitions

Exhibition at Charing Cross Underground Station, promoted by Nursery Schools Association. Aim of Association : To provide centres at which young children will be looked after well, at any time, while the mothers work.

39. Railings

West Yorkshire Society of Architects agreed to co-operate with Ministry of Supply (Iron and Steel Control) in surveying privately owned iron railings in and near cities of Leeds and Bradford. Survey, it was stated, would be completed within few weeks.

40. Obituary

F. W. Troup, F.S.A., F.R.I.B.A. (partner in firm of Troup and Steele), Supervising Architect, Bank of England and Consulting Architect, Home Office (Schools and Police Buildings). Aged 62. He was Master of Art Workers' Guild in 1923.

41. Publications

War Damage Act, 1941.
H.M.S.O. 1s. 6d.
Bulletin C.14. M.H.S. (R. & E. D.), *Refuge Room Domitories*; C.16, *Indoor (Antidebris) Shelters*. Both Bulletins free.

35. Law

c Chancery Division, before Mr. Justice Uthwatt. Action by J. Meikle, F.R.I.B.A. (partner in firm of Smith and Brewer), Mrs. Clara Smith (widow) and Douglas Chaplin, against Edward Maufe, A.R.A., and Heal and Sons. Meikle's claim was in his personal capacity, and plaintiffs, Mrs.

C. MEIKLE v. MAUFE.—Mr. Justice Uthwatt took

over two important jobs during the year. He became Chairman of the Expert Committee on Compensation and Betterment* and was the judge in the Meikle v. Maufe case. The claim in this case was by the successors in title of Smith and Brewer, a firm of architects, who alleged that the buildings put up in accordance with Edward Maufe's plans for Heal and Sons, and the plans themselves, infringed the copyright vested in the artistic design of the building, for which Smith and Brewer were responsible, and in the relative plans. Smith and Brewer acted as architects to Heal and Sons for the erection of the northern part of their building in Tottenham Court Road, London; Maufe was responsible for the northern extension. By laying it down that this copying must not extend to the exact reproduction of a building or part of a building, the verdict placed a sensitive architect for the future in an awkward position. When extending or building in close proximity to a well-known building he may be urged by common sense, civic feeling and good manners to *harmonize* with it. But he will have to remember that henceforward harmony is permitted only in moderation—however excellent the motive. Once harmony becomes too perfect, once a certain imperceptible line is passed, the very noticeable discord of a tort will have occurred. The future also holds inconveniences for the building owner. By the admission of Mrs. Dunbar Smith as a plaintiff the case brought architectural copyright in closer conformity with literary copyright. By admission of damage to Meikle—Smith and Brewer's successor in business—it follows commercial precedent concerning proprietary articles. Thus building owners who desire to carry out a building venture in stages over a period of years must choose their architect carefully, take an assignment of the copyright, or abandon all faddishness about perfect harmony in detail.

31. Building Regulations
Amendment in Regulation 56A of the Defence (General) Regulations which concerned licences for building operations. Amendment came into force on April 14, and the chief changes were outlined as follows :
(a) On, and after April 14, no building operation estimated to cost more than £100 may be commenced except by licence issued by M.O.W.B. or, in the case of local authorities and public utilities,



Demolition of the North Tower of the Crystal Palace on April 16—the last surviving piece of Paxton's design; 840 tons of cast and wrought iron were salvaged for munitions.



M A Y

42. Committees and Appointments

Formation of Christian Churches Main Committee to deal with repair of war-damaged churches. Secretary, E. H. Johnson, 1 Millbank, S.W.1.

Lord President of Council appointed Engineering Advisory Committee to advise Government upon engineering questions concerned with war effort. Members:

Lord Hankyn, Chairman; Lord Falmonth, Vice-Chairman; Sir Henry Tizard, F.R.S.; J. R. Beard, M.Sc.; Dr. A. P. M. Fleming, M.I.Mech.E.; W. T. Halcrow, M.I.N.I.C.E.; B. W. Holman, A.R.S.M.; Dr. C. C. Paterson, M.I.E.E.; H. R. Ricardo, A.M.I.N.I.C.E.; A. Roberson, M.I.Mech.E. Representatives of Government research establishments to be associated with Committee as required.

National Buildings Record Council for Scotland formed by M.O.W.B. Object:

To make a register of all buildings of merit with a view to possible reparation of any that might suffer by enemy action.

Members of Committee:

Marquess of Bute, Chairman; T. F. MacLennan, President of the R.I.A.S.; Reginald Fairlie; F. C. Mears; Ian Lindsay; Lord Hamilton of Dalzell; J. S. Richardson (Inspector of Ancient Monuments); Stanley Cursitor; T. Innes; Dr. Mackay Mackenzie; and Dr. Baird Smith, Secretary of the Scottish Council; Mr. George Scott-Moncrieff.

43. Building Work

New centres of allocation of ton College, prior to being exhibited in many towns.

House at Harrow Weald. By Frederick MacManus, T.R.B.A., F.R.I.B.A., M.R.I.B.A.

47. Gift from America

Official ruling by Board of Trade on the question whether architects' drawings and plans are insurable under Part II of War Damage Act. Statement by R.I.B.A.:

An official ruling received by the R.I.B.A. from the B.O.T. that architectural plans and drawings are regarded as 'documents owned for the purpose of a business' under Section 95 of the Act and are therefore not insurable. This being so, members are recommended to inform their clients that drawings in the architect's possession are not insurable by the architect under the Act and to enquire whether the client wishes him or whether he will leave them in the architect's custody at his, the client's risk.

War Damage Commission opened ten Regional Offices in England, Wales and Scotland. List printed in JOURNAL for May 15 (page 320).

45. Practice

Scale of fees agreed by R.I.B.A. with M.O.W.B. for private architects employed on refugee accommodation in Government buildings. Full details printed in JOURNAL for June 5 (page 368).

Publication of R.I.B.A.'s balance sheet. Income in 1940 was £1,000 less than in 1939; expenditure less by £14,000. Arthur W. Kenyon, F.R.I.B.A., elected President of the Architectural Association.

Name of Garden Cities and Town Planning Association

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48. Housing

Pair of experimental concrete houses erected on Wyrthenshaw Estate by Manchester Corporation Housing Department (Architect, John Hughes).

Floors, roofs and stairs are of concrete; roofs, pitched, have precast roof beams covered with lightweight precast slab from beam to beam and finally finished with roof tiles.

49. Exhibitions

"Living in Cities" Exhibition at R.I.B.A. Aim: To persuade as many people as possible that planned reconstruction and redevelopment after war is both desirable and possible. Exhibition, small in size, consists of photographs and plans, and can be shown in several towns simultaneously. After pre-view at R.I.B.A., it was publicly shown at Impington.

ton College, prior to being exhibited in many towns.

House at Harrow Weald. By Frederick MacManus, T.R.B.A., F.R.I.B.A., M.R.I.B.A.

Minister of Health (circular to local authorities) stated, with a view to keeping all existing brickworks in operation, it was necessary to assure that supply of bricks equalled demand and to avoid unnecessary transport of bricks. M.O.W.B. had decided that contractors should be instructed to take all reasonable steps to exhaust supplies of suitable bricks within 50 miles of jobs before going farther afield, even though prices of local bricks might be higher than elsewhere.

changed to : Town and Country Planning Association. R. Coppock elected President of B.I.N.C.

Basis of employment and remuneration of architects in regard to schemes for hostels, War Office camps and similar schemes of a standard type which involve repetition units for M.O.W.B., agreed between R.I.B.A. and M.O.W.B. Scale obtainable from R.I.B.A. and details published in A.J. for June 5 (page 369).

46. Law

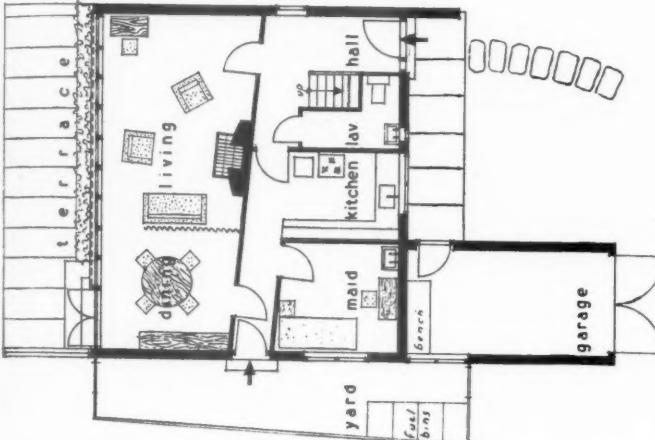
House of Lords allowed appeal by plaintiffs, Bradford Third Equitable Benefit Building Society, from decision of Court of Appeal, reversing decision of Mr. Justice Bennett. By their action, Society claimed from Mrs. Borders, of West Wickham, Kent, possession of her house on the grounds that subscriptions due under a mortgage deed dated October 10, 1934, were more than three months in arrears. Mrs. Borders denied validity of deed and set up a counter-claim for damages for alleged fraudulent misrepresentation contained in statements made to her at an interview on February 9, 1934, at offices at Bromley, Kent, of Morell (Builders) Ltd., who built her house, by a person acting on their behalf.

44. Planning and Reconstruction

Letter to the press by Hon. Secretary of Committee of Technicians in the Building Industry of Planned Reconstruction :

Necessary as public discussion and information of that sort are, surely it is futile to imagine that this alone can achieve anything while those who have the power to obstruct still hold it. 'They are not going to be talked out of it. They will continue to control the government in their own interests as long as they are allowed to. Surely, therefore, a genuine first step towards reconstruction is to replace the government by one in which vested interests shall have no power and which will be free to replan the people's land and resources in the sole interests of the mass of the people.

House at Harrow Weald. By Frederick MacManus. The little house with a roof sloping from front to back with broad eaves and two continuous rows of windows, looks very pleasant and welcoming on the outside but here, for no reason, the dividing partition which ordinarily is parallel to the back and front wall of such a rectangular building is not so placed, with the result that every room iscock-eyed. I should be very interested to know whether life is really happy under these circumstances and whether children, if any, are growing up normally (page 62).



50. Honours (Military)

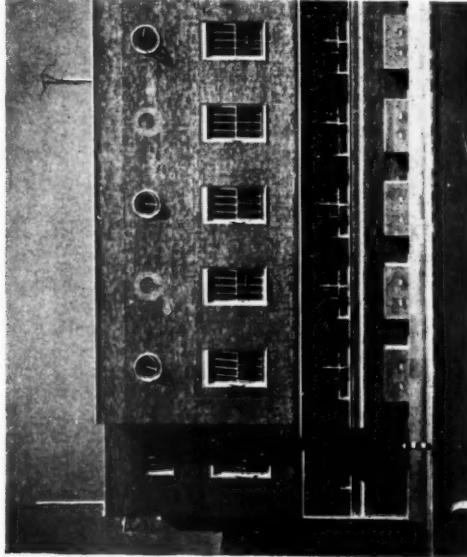
Mentioned in Dispatches : Lt.-Col. F. H. Foster, L.R.I.B.A., R.E., for work in Belgium and France.

51. Obituary

On active service : H. R. Lanchester, A.R.I.B.A. (partner in firm of Lanchester, Lucas and Davis), P.O., R.A.F.; F. J. Buckland, A.R.I.B.A., Squadron Leader, R.A.F.; G. N. Ellis, L.R.I.B.A., Royal Artillery; H. C. Farmer, F.R.I.B.A., Lt., R.N.V.R.

52. Publications

Richard Norman Shaw. By Sir Reginald Blomfield, R.A. Batsford, 12s. 6d.
No. 15, Standard Designs for Single Storey Factories for War Industries, with notes on Siting and Layout. H.M.S.O., Is.
Nursery Centres Equipment : An Economical Equipment, by H. V. Lanchester.
Report, by Mr. Justice Simmonds, on allegations made in connection with militia camps in Fifth Report of Select Committee. H.M.S.O., Id.
M.O.H.S. Booklet, Steel Shelters—Cases of Flooding. H.M.S.O., 2d.



Leyton Police Station. By Julian Leathart. Good, plain, pleasant semi-modern architecture with fine fields of plain brickwork obtained largely, I suppose, through top lighting and through the series of widely-spaced small circular windows. This is certainly one of the pleasanter of the new stations (page 63).

J U N E

D. CENTRAL COUNCIL: Formation of Central Council for Works and Buildings announced on August 25 and reported in JOURNAL for September 4. Council set up to advise M.O.W.B. on questions affecting Building Industry as a whole. Members appointed by Ministry; chosen to represent industry, and Government departments directly concerned with its control and organization, 14 members representing employers and operatives, 5 members representing M.O.W.B., 1 representing Ministry of Labour. Chairman, Hugh Beaver; Vice-Chairman, Sir Ernest Simon.

All are actively engaged in work connected with industry with exception of chairman and vice-chairman, who work full time on council affairs. Committees have been appointed to deal with following subjects:—Conditions of contract; education; labour conditions and welfare; materials and plant; regionalization and works. M.O.W.B. in setting up National Council appointed by itself, has acted contrary to wishes of B.I.N.C., which desires official recognition as body entitled to speak with authority for building industry as a whole; case against Government policy forcibly put in B.I.N.C. Survey for last quarter of 1941. Main arguments against Government policy:

(i) action of Government is designed to side-track B.I.N.C.'s effort of ten years standing to organize building industry on national and democratic basis and will lead to chaos unless reversed; (ii) nominated council cannot speak with authority and therefore cannot formulate policy. Arguments on Government's side are (i) B.I.N.C. does not fully represent building industry, notable exceptions being engineers and civil engineering contractors, small builders and to lesser extent manufacturers of building materials (membership open to all branches of industry provided they are federated on national basis but some prefer not to join). (ii) B.I.N.C. has been invited and encouraged to reorganize in a way that will attract more representative body of members. (iii) Work of reorganizing industry to meet war and post-war problems must in meantime be carried on, and council capable of advising Ministry is immediately necessary. (See Lord Reith's speech in JOURNAL for September 4.)

53. Committees and Appointments

Formation of Special Commission to consider future of city churches. Main objects: Question of policy concerning City churches in relation to post-war reconstruction among other matters will be considered, and the commission will make recommendations to the Bishop of London and, if so requested by him, take necessary steps to give effect to them.

56. Assessment of War Damage

Members:

Lord Merriman (Chairman), Sir George Wilkison (Lord Mayor), W.H. Ansell, P.R.I.B.A., Dean of St.Paul's, Archdeacon of London, and Dr. Con (Canon of Westminster). To these were added other representatives of the City and some representation of wider interests.

Announcement that National Building Council to be formed to consist of representatives of all sides of industry under independent chairmanship. M.O.W.B., in view of the importance of an efficient brick industry both during and after the war (with agreement of the industry), appointed a Committee representative of all interested, to advise him on the subject.

Oliver Simmonds, M.P., to be

Chairman of the Committee which will, in particular, advise on steps to be taken to secure adequate output, maximum co-ordination, pooling of resources and information, economy of manufacture and introduction of more scientific

them were already producing bricks according to the agreed standard specifications given below:

Length	Width	Depth	Type II	Type III
8 $\frac{1}{2}$ \pm $\frac{1}{8}$	4 $\frac{1}{2}$ \pm $\frac{1}{8}$	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ \pm $\frac{1}{8}$	in. in. in.	in. in. in.
\pm $\frac{1}{16}$	\pm $\frac{1}{16}$	\pm $\frac{1}{16}$		

Tolerance, Tolerance, Tolerance, Tolerance, Tolerance.

59. Westminster Hall

In House of Commons, G. Hicks, Parliamentary Secretary, M.O.W.B., questioned about Australian Government's offer to provide new beams to repair roof of Westminster Hall, said it would be preferable to await end of hostilities before deciding what permanent reconstruction was necessary.

60. Exhibitions

“Our Inheritance,”* title of an exhibition for use in schools, organized by the Housing Centre. It is part of an historical survey which traces the chief social and economic changes that have taken place in this country during the last 1,000 years, in so far as they have affected architecture and the appearance of the countryside. There are 36 sheets in all. They are small in size and

were designed to be easily fixed to a wall, or to be handed

for advising on or supervising works will be paid only where it is necessary to enclose professional services.



Bank Building, Jerusalem. By Eric Mendelsohn (page 63)

the appearance of the country-side. There are 36 sheets in all. They are small in size and

to be made by the Commission. The account of such persons must be attached to the claim. Fees

method. Committee will first consider steps to be taken immediately to assist the war effort.

54. New Regulations

New Essential Work (Building and Civil Engineering) Order. Object : to secure labour to speed up building of aerodromes, factories and other constructional works of vital importance.

Main provisions of the Order are that, when an undertaking is scheduled :—
(a) The right of the employer to discharge a worker, and of the worker to leave, is strictly controlled.

(b) A guarantee of a certain minimum time-rate of wages is given.

(c) Cases of alleged absenceism, unpunctuality, failure to comply with lawful orders and behaviour impeding production are dealt with under a special procedure. Order part of a wider scheme framed by the Ministry of Works and Buildings for the control and direction of the two industries in the interests of the war effort.

for advising on or supervising works will be paid only where it is necessary to employ professional assistance. The Commission cannot pay any fee for advice sought by the claimant in completing this form." From this it will be clearly seen

that while, in accordance with the terms of the War Damage Act, professional fees in connection with the execution of repair work will be paid for as part of the claim, professional assistance in the formulation and assessment of a claim will not.

57. New Construction New method of hut construction, almost entirely with unskilled labour, illustrated in Journal for June 12.

Hut is duodecagonal on plan and has a conical roof of about 30° pitch. The diameter of the hut is 27 ft. and the height from floor to eaves 7 ft. The inventor of the method of construction is Major J. H. de W. Waller.

58. Reservation

Memorandum to Minister of Labour from A.A.S.T.A. I. Architects have been placed once more on the Schedule of Reserved Occupations, the age of reservation being 35. We believe that the position is still unsatisfactory in the following respects :—

(a) The reservation applies only to those registered under the Architects (Registration) Acts and not to the many trained and capable assistants who, while not on the Register, carry on most of the work of the profession.
(b) Architects and architectural assistants below the age of 35 are still being called up, though in most instances they are engaged on essential work, often on work that they alone can do.
(c) The architectural schools, which are a vital part of the profession, are suffering seriously because students are not allowed to complete their training.

61. Law

Prosecution at Cheshunt of Walter J. Howard and Hedley Howard, of Hoddesdon, for carrying on business under name and style of "Architect" without being a registered architect. Case brought by Architects' Registration Council. Each defendant fined 10s. and two guineas costs.

62. Honours (Civil)

King's Birthday Honours List. M.B.E. : J. Fernandes, Consulting Architect to Government of Madras. W. H. Ansell appointed to Grand Rank of Assistant Grand Superintendent of Works (Masonic honour conferred as token of high regard held by Grand Lodge for work being undertaken by R.I.B.A., under Ansell's leadership.). Ebenezer Howard Memorial Medal for contributions to town planning : Richard Barry Parker, F.R.I.B.A.

55. Standardization of Bricks

Standardization of common brick to two sizes agreed by manufacturers throughout England and Wales, in collaboration with the M.O.W.B. In England and Wales majority of the 850 brick manufacturers, who produce about 5,000 million bricks a year, had for some time been making bricks of the agreed size. Minority now changing (it was stated) their plant and many of

were designed to be easily fixed to a wall, or to be handed round a class.

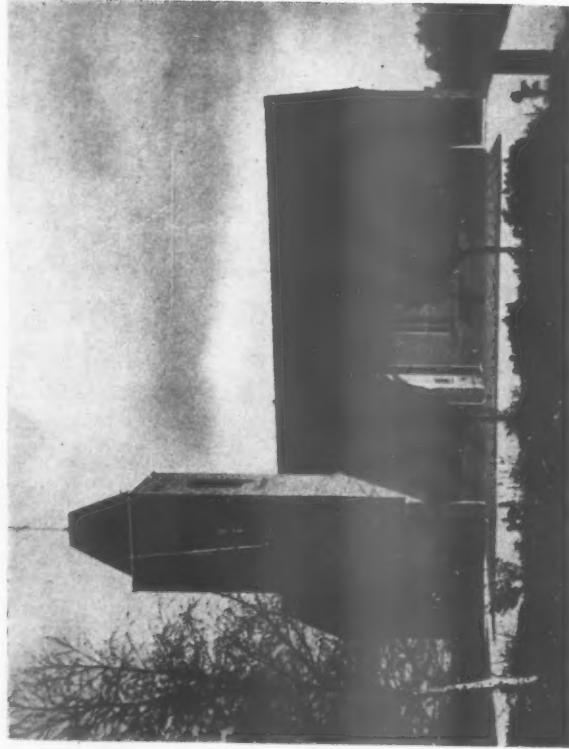
* (Booklet on Exhibition to be published in January, 1942, by The Architectural Press.)

E. SHELTER-HOUSING: Three war-time housing schemes illustrated in JOURNAL this year. First, Coventry, on April 24, designed by D. E. Gibson, About 2,000 houses. Ordinary two and three-bedrooms, house built in terraces (average eight houses to a terrace), with approach to back doors through archways. Air-raid shelter provided in form of larders with windows opening on to these protected passage-ways, and shielded front and back by living rooms. Additional strengthening provided by carrying internal walls through two floors and constructing first floor and roof of Myko Concrete. Second scheme, illustrated July 10, designed by Sam Bunton,

63. Publications

War Damage Commission's Form C.I.A. Deals with that part of War Damage Act which relates to land and buildings. H.M.S.O., 1d. Report of Cement Committee. (See Notes for January.) H.M.S.O., 2d. A Cautionary Guide. By Alan Reitach and Robert Hurd. The Saltire Society, price 2/6 net.

Scottish Reconstruction Architect, adapts ideas originally put forward by O. N. Arup (in *Safe Housing in Wartime*) to problem of rehousing Clydeside workers. Two-storey carcasses with R.C. floors, roof and cross-walls every 12 or 14 feet, constructed monolithically. External walls only in brick. Central corridor with staircases and plumbing units approximately every 43 ft. gives flexible plan capable of adaptation with minimum of structural alteration to provide either shelter-bunk accommodation or hostel-type accommodation in 6 ft. cubicles, or two three bedroom flats suitable for peace-time use. Third scheme, illustrated September 11, designed by L. H. Keay, Liverpool city architect: between 200 and 300 houses. Ground floor only to be built in wartime. Shelter space provided by dividing future entrance hall and parlour into three 6 ft. cubicles. External wall to this portion 4½ in. brickwork, 2½ in. cavity, 9 in. brickwork. Strengthened R.C. slab over shelter, bedrooms calculated to withstand load of 400 lb. per sq. ft.



Church at Hook, Hampshire. By Edward Maufe. A plain brick and tile church with a high gabled roof, no aisles and a tall Mayfe-like tower. It has long windows and externally a lean elegance I find very attractive (page 62).

J U L Y

64. Committees and Appointments

T. P. Bennett,* F.R.I.B.A., appointed Director of Works in succession to late Lt.-Col. Humphreys.† (Bennett was formerly Director of Bricks and subsequently Deputy Director of Works.)

* Founder of firm of T. P. Bennett and Son, architects, of London; at one time the Director of the Northern Polytechnic School of Architecture; he has carried out important work for the Admiralty. † Died in July.

Names of chairman and vice-chairman of National Building Council,* announced. Chairman, Hugh Beaver, M.I.Mech.E., Director-General of M.O.W.B.; Deputy Chairman, Sir Ernest Simon, Chief Regional Information Officer for North-West Region.

* Full Committee announced in August. See 74 and Refresher D

M.O.S. appointed Sir James Calder, C.B.E., Adviser on Home Timber Production to Raw Materials branch of Ministry of Supply.

70. Practice

Apart from memorandum, the Committee offered several observations. These were reprinted in JOURNAL for July 17, p. 40.

Interim Report of Uthwatt Committee on Compensation and Betterment⁶ published. Lord Reith, on behalf of Government, accepted in principle recommendations of Committee in so far as they are designed to prevent private persons making financial gain out of landed property by reason of war conditions or post-war reconstruction; he promised Legislation at an early date.

Recommendations of the report in so far as they relate to establishment of a Central Planning Authority rejected. Government reaffirmed that in principle it agrees to the necessity for planned development, but no steps have been taken to establish the necessary central authority.

67. A.R.P.

Publication of Report of A.R.P. Committee of A.A.S.T.A. dealing with needs of people who live in blitzed cities. (Report fully dealt with in JOURNAL for August 17.)

68. New Head of L.C.C.

Lt.-Col. Humphreys, Director of Works, M.O.W.B. On Active Service; 2nd/Lt. A. S. Foster, R.A., A.R.I.B.A., F.R.I.B.A., A. R. J. Medcalf, A.R.I.B.A.

Major-General H. C. Cole appointed President and Vice-President of Chartered Surveyors' Institution.

Leverhulme Scholarship in Architecture, tenable at the A.A. School of Architecture, value £1,000, which includes payment of fees and maintenance for a period of five years, awarded to Ronald H. Sims, of Bournemouth.

C. Max Lock, A.R.I.B.A., Head of Hull School of Architecture, awarded Research Fellowship by Leverhulme Trust.

71. Honours

Mentioned in Dispatches: Capt. A. E. Daniels, R.E., L.R.I.B.A., for services in Belgium and France.

O.B.E.: Major Edwin G. G. Bax, F.R.I.B.A., Assistant Architect on staff of L.C.C. and Co-ordinating Officer, Rescue Service, London Civil Defence Region.

O.B.E.: Major Edwin G. G. Bax, F.R.I.B.A., Assistant Architect on staff of L.C.C. and Co-ordinating Officer, Rescue Service, London Civil Defence Region.

72. Obituary

F. R. Hioras, Architect to L.C.C. and Superintending Architect of Metropolitan Buildings, retired under age limit. J. H. Forshaw, Deputy

Historical or public interest, or some there remain buildings which, because of their architectural, historical or public interest, or

73. Publications

Buildings, retired under age limit. J. H. Forshaw, Deputy

because of their architectural, historical or public interest or their modern character, should be preserved. There may also be groups of properties it would be unjustifiable to destroy. Smaller areas in which property has suffered war damage, though the general standard of development is satisfactory. Here restoration should fit in with the general scheme for the district. Areas should be left for open spaces or playgrounds.

New or widened roads, previously in hand or in contemplation, could be incorporated in areas in which many properties have been damaged in varying degrees. Public buildings, as well as hospitals, could now be enlarged owing to the destruction of adjacent properties which hitherto it would have been too expensive to acquire.



Sam Buntton, A.R.I.A.S., called in to organize emergency repairs in a Clydeside area, adopted O. N. Arup's scheme for safe housing in war time as a solution to his own problem of reconstruction. With the co-operation of Arup he prepared drawings, which were adopted by Council. Detailed drawings in preparation for submission to the M.H.S. and D.H.S. (Scheme illustrated in technical press.)

Buildings, retired under age limit. J. H. Forshaw, Deputy Architect, appointed to succeed. Salary, £2,500 a year, rising by £250 at end of first and third years to £3,000.

73. Publications

Britain Must Rebuild, by Frank Pick. Kegan Paul, 1s.
Reconstruction of Bombed Buildings: Practical Lessons from the Past, by B. S. Townroe. Individualist Bookshop, 6d.
Safe Housing in Wartime, by O. N. Arup. London: D. Gestetner, 5s. 6d. post free. (Book includes author's housing theories and résumé of shelter construction and requirements.)

Uthwatt Committee's Report (see Compensation and Betterment section). H.M.S.O. 3d.



Art of Camouflage, by Colonel Chesney. Robert Hale. Price 8s. 6d.

Safe Housing in Wartime, by O. N. Arup. London: D. Gestetner, 5s. 6d. post free. (Book includes author's housing theories and résumé of shelter construction and requirements.)

Uthwatt Committee's Report (see Compensation and Betterment section). H.M.S.O. 3d.



Shops at Coventry. By D. E. E. Gibson. The real thing belonging to a real world. How good they are in their simple way with the expressive fluting of their corrugated-iron fronts and the overhanging roofs, their small windows and the continuous frieze with the same lettering running over all (page 63).

Below: House, Dockray, North Ferriby, Yorkshire. By Martin and Speight. This house, while frank and truthful and modern, is yet very sensitively joined to the surrounding work. The new work to the main front is mainly an inset panel of white windows and cedar infilling and its stark frankness is its salvation (page 62).

69. Greetings

Following cablegram received by P.R.I.B.A. from U.S.S.R. Academy of Architecture.

We send through you friendliest greetings to architects of Britain. We have a common foe, a foe bringing in his wake bestial hatred of human liberty and culture, a foe striving to destroy everything created by human endeavour in our centuries-old history.

66. Compensation and Betterment

Memorandum prepared by an R.I.B.A. Committee was submitted to the Expert Committee on Compensation and Betterment on May 13, but was not issued for publication pending consideration by Council of R.I.B.A. Memorandum received approval of Council at beginning of month. It was signed by H. V. Lanchester (Chairman), E. G. Allen, P. V. Burnett, W. R. Davidge and Sydney Tatchell.

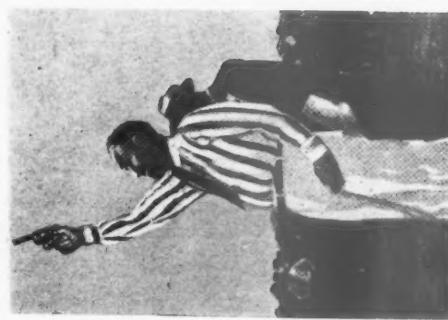
AUGUST

The Great House Race

The Central Contracting Co. of Dallas, Texas, anxious to refute the charge that building contractors are long on promises and short on delivery, staged a demonstration prefabricated house-race. The winning team, starting from prepared foundations, finished in 57 minutes 58 seconds; 20 minutes later the losing team signalled done. (from LIFE).



Electrician puts wiring in roof without waiting.



Striped shirted umpire fires starting gun.



White team (foreground) leads blue team as house race gets under way.

74. Committees and Appointments

Official Members: Ministry of Works and Buildings: W. Leitch, C.B.; Deputy Secretary, H. H. Montgomery, O.B.E.; Principal Assistant Secretary; T. P. Bennett, P.R.I.B.A.; Director of Works; Major-General K. C. Appleyard, C.B.E., D.L., M.I.Mech.E.; Director of Emergency Works, Ministry of Labour; G. H. Ince, C.B., Director of Man Power. **Secretary to the Council:** E. J. Rimmer, B.Sc., M.Eng., A.M.I.N.S.T.C.E., Barrister-at-Law.



Hugh Beaver

Members: *Chairman:* Hugh Beaver, M.I.N.S.T.C.E., M.I.C.H.E.R., M.I.N.S.T.T., Director-General, Works and Buildings and previously Partner in Sir Alexander Gibb and Partners. **Deputy-Chairman:** Sir Ernest Simon, Chairman, Simon Carves, Ltd.; Governing Director, Henry Simon, Ltd.; Member, Economic Advisory Council; M.P. Withington, 1923-24 and 29-31 (Liberal); Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Health, 1931 and famous for his housing activities since, not forgetting Wimershaw Books; amongst others, Moscow Has a Plan. **Members:** H. F. Brand, Chairman, Charles Brand and Son, Ltd., Public Works Contractors, London; Past-President, Federation of Civil Engineering Contractors (now Member of Council); and President, British Employers Confederation. G. M. Burt, Chairman, John Mowlem and Co., Ltd., Public Works Contractors, London; Past Vice-President, Federation of Civil Engineering Contractors (now

75. R.I.B.A. Reconstruction Committee

Charles J. G. Tate, principal assistant secretary of Ministry of Pensions, seconded to the M.O.W.B. to direct work of registering all persons conducting building concerns throughout the country.

76. War Damage

First two interim reports of R.I.B.A. Reconstruction Committee published: 1, Planning and Amenities; 2, Housing.

77. L.C.C.

L.C.C. decided that vacant position of Deputy Architect should not be filled for duration of war. Recommendation that separate position of "administrative officer" should be made.

78. Railings

Ministry of Supply issued following statement: Authority has been obtained by a Privy Council Order under Defence Regulations to enable the M.O.W.B. to take down and remove railings in possession of tenants and to protect tenants from any obligation to the landlords arising out of the removal of such railings. Under regulation 50 of the Emergency Powers (Defence) General Regulations authority has already been taken to remove railings directly owned by local authorities and private owners anywhere in the country. Instructions are being sent to local authorities by M.O.W.B. not to remove railings of historic interest.

79. Reservation

Architectural assistants with five years' experience as such were reserved at age of 35. Revision did not involve release of men in Forces or of men who had received their enlistment notices.

81. Hostels

Parliament, by inserting Section 7 in the War Damage Act, has expressed its intention that war damage payments

Member of Council); and Chairman, Building Research Board.

Member of Council); and Chairman, Building Research Board; Richard Coppock, President, Building Industries National Council; General Secretary, National Federation of Building Trade Operatives; Operative Secretary, National Joint Council for the Building Industry; and President, International Federation of Building and Wood Workers. Luke Fawcett, President and Acting General Secretary, Amalgamated Union of Building Trade Workers; Member of the Executive Council, National Federation of Building Trade Operatives; and Member of the General Council, British Trade Union Congress; Oswald Heal, F.S.I., Past-President, Surveyors' Institution; and Partner, George Cordrey and Co., Quantity Surveyors. Sir Clement Hindley, K.C.I.E., M.I.N.S.C.E., M.I.N.T., Past-President, Institution of Civil Engineers; Chief Commissioners of Railways, India (1922-28); and Regional Works Adviser, London Civil Defence Region. John Laing, Chairman, John Laing and Son, Ltd., Building Contractors, London; Alderman Pitt, J.P., Past-President, Regional Works Adviser, Newcastle; and Assistant Director of Emergency Works, M.O.W.B., Newcastle. Tom Pugh, Secretary, Transport and General Workers' Union (Building Trade); Secretary, Civil Engineering Operatives Panel; and Operatives' Representative, Civil Engineering Conciliation Board. J. W. Stephenson, J.P., Director of Labour, Ministry of Aircraft Production; President, National Federation of Building Trade Operatives; and General Secretary, Plumbers', Glaziers' and Domestic Engineers' Union. Percy Thomas, O.B.E., LL.D., J.P., P.P.R.I.B.A., Regional Representative for Ministry of Supply, Wales; and Past-President, Building National Council.

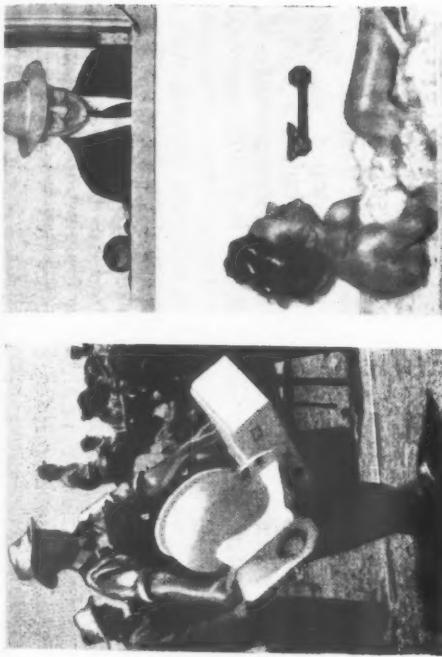
Scotland—John I. Loudon, President of the Scottish National Building Trade Federation; and Chairman, Loudon and Inglis, Building Contractors, Coatbridge. A. McTaggart, J.P., Regional Secretary, Scottish Regional Council, National Federation of Building Trade Operatives.

81. Hostels
M.O.W.B. built 289 hostels in England and Wales for 12,000 agricultural workers. Hostels were erected for Ministry of Agriculture.

82. Building Centre
New premises on top floor of Polytechnic Building Extension in Little Titchfield Street, W1, taken over by Building Centre. Previous offices in Old Bond Street were destroyed by enemy action.

83. Honours (Military)
D.F.C. : Patrick Geoghegan (Assistant Advertising Manager, *Architectural Review*), P.O., R.A.F.

F. PREFABRICATION.—Technique of Prefabrication boosted by war, though biggest developments have been in countries not actually at war, notably in America. First big scheme sponsored by U.S. Navy illustrated A.J. March 27; ASTRAGAL's comments, March 20. Starting from scratch, U.S.A. Navy Department collected staff, standardized requirements, negotiated with contractors, roped in 12 manufacturers of prefabricated parts, and had 43 separate estates containing 23,500 buildings well on way to completion within 2½ months. Methods varied but common to most was use of prefabricated steel units. Commonest type R.C. ground-floor and plinth strips in framing; external wall finish insulating steel units. Commonest type R.C. ground-floor and plinth strips in framing; all wall boards light steel lattice units for wall and roof framing (sprayed with zinc oxide and stored during manufacture); galvanized steel roof panels; internal wall finish insulating board tacked to wood strips in framing; board covered shingles clipped to framing; all wall boards run over windows, openings cut later with electric saw. In England, National Camps Corporation camps, about 30 in number, built of prefabricated parts. Wood framing units factory made and assembled on site, designed before the war by Sir John Burnet, Tait and Lorne, illustrated April 3. American Red Cross and Harvard University Field Hospital (illustrated in ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL, July 24) constructed



Important plumbing equipment arrives. Girl in the bath tub inside one hour.

84. Publications
M.H.S. Bulletins (R. & E.D.), *Recent Developments in Protective Wall Designs for Factories*, Bulletin C19, *Welding for the Repair of Steel-framed Sheds Buildings and for Strengthening their Resistance to Air Attack*. Memorandum on War Damage Act, 1941. Prepared for Chartered Surveyors' Institution by H. F. Bidder (included in the Act, printed in full). Obtainable from C.S.I., 5s. 18th Report of Select Committee on National Expenditure for 1940-41. (Appendices invited comments of Government Departments upon recommendations made by Select Committee and contained in parts. ii-xi of present session.)

Important measures for safeguarding the public interest in the making of war damage payments were set out in a memorandum by the War Damage Commission issued to all local and planning authorities by M.O.H. and the Secretary of State for Scotland respectively.

77. Registration of Builders
Statement in a new regulation that every builder in country must register by September 1, otherwise he would not be permitted to carry on his business after October 1.

S E P T E M B E R

entirely of prefabricated parts shipped to England ready for assembly. Framework timber kiln-dried to moisture content of 9 per cent. and given one coat sealer as soon as machining completed ; roofing galvanized sheet steel laid on interlocking tiles ; internal finish pine multiply ; external finish double-thickness Celotex surfaced both sides with asbestos ; windows standardized and delivered to job already glazed with wired glass. Erection time including foundations about three weeks each unit (148 ft. by 20 ft. equipped with independent services and oil-fired heating unit) with 10 men working.

In Germany, Dr. Fey, Reich Commissar for the Social Building Programme, preparing for prefabrication on grand scale, states that building industry will be unable to master post-war problems with old methods. Foresees production of houses in factories and forecasts "under these conditions only two building materials will be suitable—wood and steel" (Other Camp, ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL, September 25). Unconventional expandable house designed for mass production by Martin Wagner, American architect, for use in Turkey after latest earthquake (illustrated July 17). Construction similar to that of up-to-date caravan, shape more like an igloo : variations in plan requirements met by purchase of extra igloo units connected by covered ways. Cost of four-roomed house about £500 : basic living-room unit with kitchen recess £125, sub-units £100, connecting halls £12, bath-room £50.

Sensational demonstration of prefabrication in action—a house race at Dallas, Texas was illustrated August 28. Starting from prepared foundations, winning team of 50 men completed a four-roomed house in 57 minutes 58 seconds. Complete meant ready furnished with food in larder and a girl in the bath tub. Houses of same type let for £5 to £6 per month which covers cost of playing-fields, parks, play-grounds, roads, etc. Not bad for a dandy house in a swell location.

Latest American development, illustrated in *Architectural Forum*, November, 1941, is a house built up of a one-piece wall material, instead of usual arrangement of several independent layers. New material is a club sandwich of two or three layers bagasse fibre (sugar cane), insulating board between $\frac{1}{8}$ in. protecting layers asbestos cement, well buttered with bituminous compound and heat-pressed together to form panels sized 4 ft. by 12 ft. carried from stock pit to building with special four-man rig. Two bed-room houses fitted together at rate of six a day by erection crew of 150, cost about £560 per house. Price includes fitted cupboards in kitchen, stainless steel double sink, built-in cupboards, tiles in bathroom and metal venetian blinds in living-room. Outside appearance

Central Canal Committee set up by the Minister of War Transport to advise him on questions of policy affecting inland waterways and to co-ordinate the work of six Regional Canal Committees. Chairman of the Committee, Colonel J. J. Llewellyn, Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry.

In House of Commons, T. Johnston said : A Council has been formed to collaborate with me for the purpose of surveying problems of post-war reconstruction in Scotland. Members will be all the living ex-Secretaries of State for Scotland (Sir Archibald Sinclair, Colonel Walter Elliot, Colonel Colville, and Ernest Brown) and Lord Alness, who holds the office of Secretary for Scotland.

The work of the council (over which Mr. Johnston will preside) will be carried on in close touch with the organizations of Great Britain as a whole. Colonel C. W. D. Rose, London Brick Co., Ltd. ; J. H. B. Dixon, Messrs. Hough and Co., Ltd. ; H. Halliday, F.C.I.S., The National Federation of Clay Industries. Pressed Brickmakers' Association.—Colonel C. W. D. Rose, London Brick Co., Ltd. ; F. H. Parrott, F.C.A., The Pressed Brick Makers Association, Ltd. Sand Lime, Standard Sand Co., Mansfield Association.—R. S. Barringer, Sir Geoffrey Whiskard, K.C.M.G., C.B., took up his post as Permanent Secretary, M.O.W.B. When appointment was announced in April he was in Australia where, since 1936, he has been High Commissioner. See April (30).

85. Committees and Appointments

M.O.W.B. appointed committee to advise him on steps to be taken for increased efficiency and economy in manufacture of bricks. Terms of reference :

To advise on steps to be taken to secure adequate output, maximum co-ordination, pooling of resources and information, economy of manufacture, introduction of more scientific methods and on labour and transport problems.

Members : Chairman.—Oliver Simmonds, M.P. National Federation of Clay Industries.—Horace Boot, M.I.N.S.T.C.E., M.I.M.C.E., M.I.E.E., Messrs. Eastwoods, Ltd. ; E. Finch Mitchell, The Sussex and Dorking United Brick Companies, Ltd. ; E. Gwynne Vevers, C.E., The Catbrook Brick Co., Ltd. ; J. H. B. Dixon, Messrs. Hough and Co., Ltd. ; H. Halliday, F.C.I.S., The National Federation of Clay Industries. Pressed Brickmakers' Association.—Colonel C. W. D. Rose, London Brick Co., Ltd. ; F. H. Parrott, F.C.A., The Pressed Brick Makers Association, Ltd. Sand Lime, Standard Sand Co., Mansfield Association.—R. S. Barringer, Sir Geoffrey Whiskard, K.C.M.G., C.B., took up his post as Permanent Secretary, M.O.W.B. When appointment was announced in April he was in Australia where, since 1936, he has been High Commissioner. See April (30).

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necessary, obtaining tenders and/or arranging a contract ; for general supervision of the execution of the works and certifying for payments and completion ;

£10 per cent. on works costing up to £500 with a minimum fee of £10. 0s. 9d. per cent. on works costing between £1,000 and £1,500 with a minimum fee of £20. 0s. 9d. per cent. on works costing between £1,500 and £2,000 with a minimum fee of £30. 0s. 9d. per cent. on works costing over £2,000 with a minimum fee of £40. 0s. 9d.

88. Lecturers to Forces

Council of A.A. in response to a request from the London Regional Committee for Education among His Majesty's Forces, formed a panel to be known as the Architectural Association Panel of Lecturers to His Majesty's Forces, of which the following became members : E. J. Carter, R. A. Duncan, Major E. Maxwell Fry, F. R. Horns, E. R. Jarrett, M. H. Peake, Capt. T. F. Redaway, M.A., R.A.H.S., R. H. Sheppard, Prof. Eva G. R. Taylor, D.S.C., F.R.G.S., F.R.Hist.S., F.R. Terbury.

89. Reservation

Schedule of Reserved Occupations amended by Minister of Labour and National Service to include reservation at 35 of architectural assistants with five years' experience. Not retrospective. New law did not affect men already in services and those on receipt of their enlistment notices.

£560 per house. Price includes fitted cupboards in kitchen, stainless steel double sink, built-in cupboards, tiles in bathroom

he was in Australia where, not affect men already in services and those on receipt of their enlistment notices.

Scottish Coalmine Brick Manufacturers. — Gilbert Morrison, Niddrie and Benthar Coal Co., Ltd. Colliery Brickworks. — F. N. Ross, The Hartley Main Collieries, Ltd. A. T. Green, F.I.C., The British Refractories Research Association; Dr. F. M. Lea, D.Sc., F.I.C., Building Research Station; Dr. J. G. King, Fuel Research Station; L. H. Pernmaine, The Transport and General Workers' Union; H. L. Bullock, National Union of General and Municipal Workers. Secretary. — A. Miller, B.Sc., A.R.I.B.A.

86. Planning and Reconstruction
Memorial on the necessity for providing playing fields and open spaces in the reconstruction of Greater London after the war prepared and forwarded to Mr. Greenwood, Minister without Portfolio, and Lord Reith, Minister of Works and Buildings, by the London and Greater London Playing Fields Association. It is stated: so rapid has been the development of Greater London that within the 10 miles radius the total area of undeveloped land suitable for the playing of games has shrunk to less than 4,000 acres. The present population of Greater London requires an additional area of at least 25,000 acres of recreation grounds and open spaces if the reasonable requirements of the community are to be met. All undeveloped land suitable for the playing of games, lying within reach of the homes of the workers, must be preserved.

L. W. Hurson, (F.R.I.B.A.), Deputy Director of Bricks for Scotland, appointed Director of Bricks in succession to Bennett. James Honeyman appointed to succeed Lockhart as D.D.B.S.

Commission appointed by the Bishop of London to inquire into and consider questions of policy concerning the churches in City of London in relation to general problems of reconstruction after the present war, having regard to their spiritual function, to their historical and architectural claims, to their place in life of City, and to other relevant factors.

Members:

Lord Merriman (Chairman); Sir George Wilkinson (the Lord Mayor); the Dean of St. Paul's; W. H. Ansell (President R.I.B.A.); A. W. Clapham (President of the Society of Antiquaries); Colin F. Campbell (President of the British Bankers' Association); Sir Eric MacLagan (Director and Secretary of the Victoria and Albert Museum); the Archdeacon of London; Canon Don; Ralph G. F. Bankes (Chancellor of the Dioceses of Durham, Manchester, Coventry and Blackburn); with Prebendary and Wellard, Rector of St. Olave's, Hart Street, as Secretary.

Commission is distinct from the Bishop of London's Committee for the City churches, which has been functioning for some time.

90. Housing

Faced with necessity of providing accommodation for essential workers in city rendered homeless through enemy action, Liverpool Corporation erected, as an experiment, between two and three hundred "house houses." Architect, L. H. Keay. Each of three bedroom shelters are capable in emergency of accommodating a double bed. Bath, in scullery, when not in use is covered by a table top.

91. Obituary

Professor A. C. Dickie (A.R.I.B.A.), aged 73. Professor of Architecture in the University of Manchester from 1912 to 1933, and then Professor Emeritus. Killed on Active Service: H. I. Gordon (A.R.I.B.A.), S/Sergt., R.E. G. Balfour, M.P. (chairman of Cement Committee).

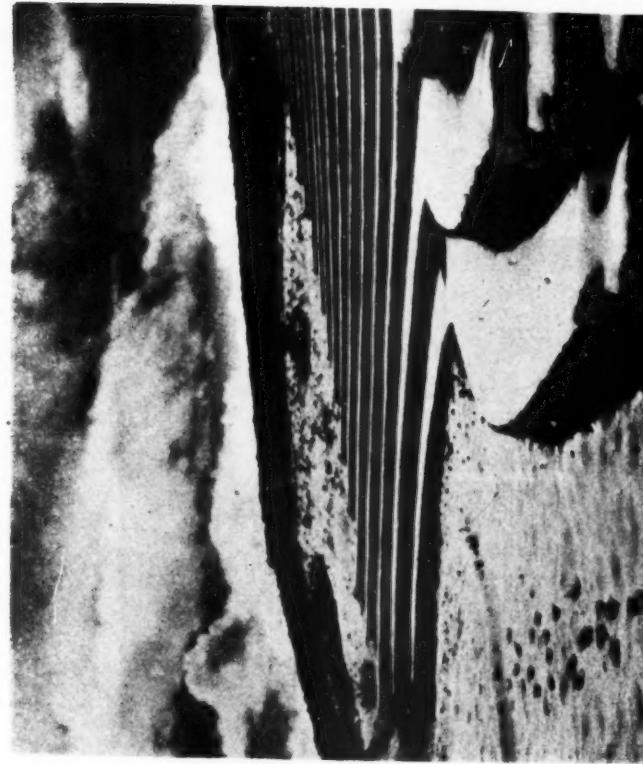
92. Publications

Wartime Building Bulletin No. 15A (Supplement to Bulletin No. 15). H.M.S.O. 6d. net.

B.S.I. Code of Practice for the Glazing and Fixing of Glass for Buildings (B.S.973, 1941). Why Wait for the Blitz? A.A.S.T.A. 9th Technical Report. 6d.

Schools in War Time. Issued by the Ministry of Information on behalf of the Board of Education. H.M.S.O. 6d. M.H.S. Bulletin C20, Construction of Reinforced Brick Walls for Surface Shelters and Similar Protective Buildings.

and metal venetian blinds in living-room. Outside appearance not so hot. Most of work done by prefabricating sub-contractors off the site. Roof trusses, floor joists, etc., precast in tent-covered shop at edge of site. Plumbing dealt with in same way and put together in easily portable sub-assemblies. Latest American joke (illustrated, *Life*, December 1)—bubble houses, made of concrete; shattering for same is a rubber balloon; construction: concrete, asbestos and cellulose, and more concrete sprayed under pressure. When shell is dry, balloon is deflated and used again. Houses are fireproof, termite-proof, splinter-proof and use very little of anything bar sand and cement, and can be hemispherical, barrel shaped, oblong or round topped.



Open-air theatre, Achill Island, Co. Mayo, by Noel Moffett. A new Greek open-air theatre looking to the sea and mountains, and with its seats hewn out of the solid rock, where could such a thing be made to-day but in Ireland? (page 63).

O C T O B E R

93. Committees and Appointments

M.O.W.B. (after consultation with Minister of Agriculture) appointed Committee with following terms of reference :

To consider the conditions which should govern building and other constructional development in country areas consistently with the maintenance of agriculture, and, in particular, the factors affecting the location of industry, having regard to economic operation, part-time and seasonal employment, the well-being of rural communities and the preservation of rural amenities.

Members :

Lord Justice Scott, Chairman (Chairman of the Agricultural Organization, 1917-1922, and of the Acquisition of Land Committee, 1917-1919); Lord Addison (Minister of Agriculture, 1930-31, present Chairman of the Buckinghamshire War Agricultural Committee); Lord Radnor (one of Agriculture and member of the Central Land-owners Association); Lady Denman (Chairman of National Federation of Women's Institutes and of the Women's Land Army); R. Cobb (member of the Executive of the Central Land Agents' Association); H. S. Cooper (one of the Managing Directors of the Ford Motor Company); S. R. Dennison (Professor of Economics at University College, Swansea); Mrs. Lionel Hichens (Member of the Royal Commission on the Distribution of the Industrial Population); A. E. Monks (Official of the National Union of Agricultural Workers); L. Ramsbottom (Head of the Rural Department of the National Council of Social Service); R. H. Roberts (formerly Industrial Adviser to the Commissioner for Special Areas); P. Robinson (Director of the Co-operative Wholesale Society); Dr. J. Dudley Stamp

design and the use of alternative materials. At a later date he hoped he might be allowed to give the House an account of that because it was an important activity for which no publicity had been sought.

95. Registration of Builders

Announced that no building or civil engineering contracting business could be carried on without provisional certificate of registration by the M.O.W.B. under Regulation 56AB of Defence (General) Regulations, 1939.

Notice stated : All registered undertakings must now observe the standard terms and conditions of employment recognized in industries. Any building or civil engineering contractor who fails to comply with these conditions is liable to have his registration certificate cancelled. If the certificate is cancelled, he will be unable to carry on his business.

96. War Damage Commission issued notice concerning effect of Restrictive Covenants, Easements and other incidents on amount of a Value Payment. War Damage Commission issued in the *London Gazette* a notice which affected the whole of the following areas : County Borough of East Ham, County Borough of West Ham, that part of the County Borough of Portsmouth South of Ports-creek, Borough of Crosby, Borough of Dover. A similar notice appeared in the *Edinburgh Gazette* with regard to the Burgh of Greenock. See August (76).

there will be a great temptation on the ground of cheapness to restore the windows with large single sheets of glass. Where this mischief had already been done through ignorance, or fashion, before the war there will be an excellent opportunity to restore glazing bars and so actually secure some small positive return out of the present tragedy of destruction.

It is of the utmost importance that

owners should have the matter explained to them before thousands of untrained builders can replace windows without the glazing bars. It is hoped, therefore, that many members either personally or through their local societies will, while there is still time, volunteer advice not only in general terms but to individual owners in their districts.

99. A.R.P.

Plan for construction of air-raid shelters* which after the war will form the ground block of permanent houses, approved by Coventry C.C. Scheme provides for erection of 255 shelters on five partially developed housing estates in suburbs, which after war will require only addition of a second floor block with the construction of interior walls and provision of windows and doors to provide four-roomed houses. Scheme approved by M.O.W.B. ; expected to ease post-war housing problems and save city £500,000.

* Illustrated in Journal for January 8, 1942.



Botanic Elementary School, Belfast. By R. S. W. Wilshire. The courtyard is paved and terraced so that it can be used as an open-air Assembly Hall, while there is a large open-air terrace on the roof for the younger children. Provision for as much open-air life as possible has been made. The detail with its slight Regency flavour is everywhere rather charming (page 61).

G. UTHWATT COMMITTEE : Interim report subject of leaders in JOURNAL : July 24, August 14. Framers of report made two big assumptions (i) that Government will not allow any person to obtain at public expense financial gain from landed property by reason of war conditions or post-war reconstruction ; (ii) that legislation will be introduced at an early date to set up a central planning authority. Recommendations (a) compensation ultimately payable in respect of public acquisition or control of land not to exceed sums based on value of land on March 31, 1939 ; (b) Areas which in opinion of competent authority should be redeveloped as a whole, owing to extent of war damage which has occurred within them, should be defined (with power to vary the limits of the areas from time to time) without waiting for end of hostilities ; (c) there should be powers of compulsory acquisition in

relation to areas so defined ; (d) existing controls, by-laws,

paration of planning survey of

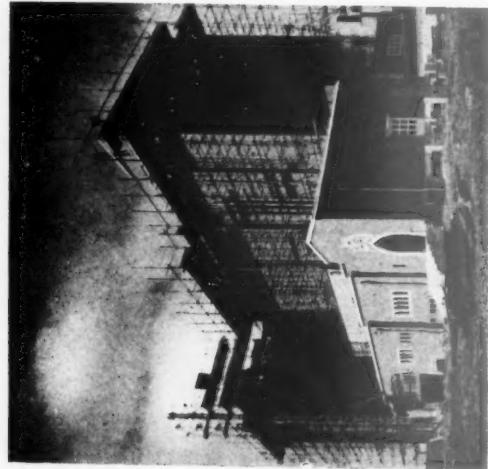
Effect of the notice is that any

Group working under the Leverhulme Trust on research into reconstruction in Hull commenced working on pre-

Guildford Cathedral.

By Edward Maufe.

Guildford Cathedral will not only have the elegant lines we all know so well, lines already bold, but crudely copied into two new cathedrals in the Antipodes, but will be enriched and vivified by a great deal of fine, severe, but all the more moving, sculpture and other enrichment, carved or coloured or both. That is the Maufe's forte and that is where Guildford will excel its far bigger sister at Liverpool (p.62).



NOVEMBER

104. Committees and Appointments

Lord President of Council appointed Sir Franklin Sibley, D.Sc., LL.D., to be member of Advisory Council to Committee of Privy Council for Scientific and Industrial Research. Rt. Hon. the Viscount Falmouth retired from Council on completion of his term of office.

M.O.H. selected F. R. Hiorns to take place of the late Sir Raymond Unwin on Town and Country Planning Advisory Committee of Ministry.

G. W. Mitchell, Controller of Building Materials in M.O.W.B., relinquished post in order to return to conduct his own business, specific task for which he was appointed having been completed.

Paul Gilbert, Director of Building Programmes in the M.O.W.B., since creation of position, found it necessary to tender his resignation owing to his firm's urgent commitments on work of national importance. Mr. Gilbert continues to serve on Central Council Works Committee.

105. Planning and Reconstruction
Convention of Royal Burghs decided to send to Prime Minister and other members

profession, the closest co-operation between all bodies and persons engaged in the profession is desirable via a central organization on which all architectural interests should be represented; and

(c) That to this end a combined Council should be set up which should speak for the profession as a whole.

Edgar M. Parkes, of Anston, Lache-Lane, Chester, appointed by the Cheshire C.C. as County Architect at a salary of £1,250 per annum, rising to £1,500.

Frederick Gibberd, F.R.I.B.A., appointed Principal of A.A.

Division.	No. of Firms.
London	15,399
South Eastern	5,354
Eastern	6,543
Southern	5,143
South Western	6,664
Midlands	6,420
North Eastern	6,196
North Western	7,895
Northern	11,950
Scotland	3,239
Wales	7,540
Great Britain	4,237
	86,580

Note.—This table covers the following trades: General Builders, Building and Civil Engineering Contractors, Civil Engineering Contractors, Plumbers, Joiners and Carpenters, Painters, Roofers, Plasterers, Glaziers, Demolition Contractors, Scaffolders and Miscellaneous. Same as the regional areas.

111. Honours (Military)

Mentioned in Dispatches: Lt. J. Lennon, A.R.I.B.A., R.E., in recognition of gallantry shown by him during the period of his escape from enemy. ▲

Frank Pick Died on November 7,

“Artists like Keats and Mozart have given themselves to their art, and reformers like Shaftesbury and Granville Sharp to good works of a different kind. Rarely has a tradesman been moved to follow their high example. Pick was one of the great exceptions. Not, since Wedgwood has an English tradesman done so much to make his trade a spiritual asset to the society on which it feeds. . . . But, even then, Pick will be remembered less for his physical works than for his shining personal example. His chief merit was this, that he showed us a new type of business executive, cultured, sensitive and creative in the highest sense, which modern business will have somehow to produce if our material civilization is to keep what little of humanity still clings about it.” — *Christian Barnard in The Architectural Review.*



108. Reservation in
of Government resolution de-
cember between June and Octo-
ber

recognition of gallantry shown by him during the period of his escape from enemy▲ cap-

Convention of Royal Burgs decided to send to Prime Minister and other members

of Government resolution demanding that post-war planning of Scotland be done in Scotland and not in Whitehall. Everyburgh in Scotland had previously approved resolution. Convention considered that Secretary of State for Scotland should be Minister responsible for such planning authority.

Publication of R.I.B.A.'s third report of Reconstruction Committee: "Building Legislation —Building Structure and Technique." Dealt with under following heads: 1, Existing Building Legislation; 2, National Recommendations; 3, National Building Board.

Most interesting suggestion in report concerned in the recommendations dealing with personnel and method. R.I.B.A. suggests that Board should be an independent authority with members elected by technical and scientific associations and trades concerned, and that it should not only be entrusted with framing of the code but with continuous revision of it in order to keep pace with continuous development of building technique.

106. Building Labour
M.O.W.B. made an Order (S.R. & O. 1941, No. 1642) calling for return from all persons (other than those who were required to register as building or civil engineering contractors under Defence Regulation 56(AB)) who employ labour engaged in building or civil engineering activities. Order stated: A compulsory return; failure to make it rendered a person to whom Order applies liable to penalties prescribed by the Defence Regulations.

At a preliminary meeting of architectural bodies held under the auspices of the Architectural Association, following resolutions were passed:
(a) That this meeting is in favour of unity in the profession.
(b) That in order to bring about unity of effort in the architectural

108. Reservation in Building Trades
M.L.N.S. announced raising of ages of reservation in building and civil engineering occupations in whatever industry the men concerned may be employed.

109. B.I.N.C.

Following statement made by B.I.N.C. in its quarterly report. After two years of war, building resources of the country, a primary and major part of any total war effort, remain virtually disorganized. The industries are in consequence suffering from a process of functional disruption resulting from a largely self-charged unco-ordinated departmentalism acting in place of the application of an enlightened and war inspired policy of national direction.

B.I.N.C., acting on instructions of M.O.W.B., to compile a register of organizations representing building and civil engineering activities — professional, contracting, materials supply and operatives. All such organizations were requested, as early as possible, to send particulars as to their functions and scope of their membership, to Secretary of Council at 110, Bickenhall Mansions, Bickenhall Street, London, W.1.

114. Obituary
Frank Pick, aged 62. The uncrowned King of London transport. A Yorkshire solicitor, he rose to dominate the daily lives of ten million Londoners. But his title to permanent fame rests on fact that he was the first Big-Business man of our day completely to identify cultural with business life. The whole of the great organization he was involved in was permeated with his beliefs about architecture, painting, typography, decoration, design. Result—what may be called the Underground style.

On Active Service: W. H. Dimmock, F/O, R.A.F.; C. H. Webb, Sgt., R.A.F.; R. K. Brooks, Fleet Air Arm; P. M. Cordy, R.A.F. (all STUDENTS, R.I.B.A.).

115. Publications

Wartime Building. Report of A.A.S.T.A. Technical Committee. Price 6d.
Joining Mortars for Brickwork. H.M.S.O. 3d.
M.H.S. Leaflet, Structural Precautions against Incendiary Bombs. Free.

112. Honours (Civil)
Royal Gold Medal for 1942 awarded to William Curtis Green, R.A., F.R.I.B.A.

113. George Medal

George Medal: W. A. Walker, F.S.I., M.I.N.S.C.E., City Engineer and Surveyor of Salford, and head of the Civil Defence Rescue Service, Salford.

116. Honours (Civil)

Royal Gold Medal for 1942 awarded to William Curtis Green, R.A., F.R.I.B.A.



Cornwell Estate. By Clough Williams-Ellis.

H. M.O.W.B., with Lord Reith as Minister, created in October, 1940, to "be responsible for erection of all new civil works and buildings required by any other Government department" but not for "highly specialized work at present carried out by Service Dpts." First job to bring Government's Building programme within capacity of industry by making big cuts. Second job to substitute system of allocation for old priority system. Ministry works out allocation of labour in detail and on Regional basis for all Government Departments. In cases of disagreement departments have right of appeal to Prime Minister and War Cabinet. Following Government Departments continue to build on own behalf:—Air Ministry, Ministry of Supply, War Office, Ministry of Aircraft Production, and to a lesser extent Admiralty, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of War Transport, G.P.O., Electricity Commission, Board of Trade, Mines Dpt., Petroleum Dpt., Home Office, Ministry of Home Security, Scottish Housing Dpt., Dpt. of Agriculture for Scotland: in fact if any Ministry or Department has been omitted from this list it is probably an oversight. Perhaps one-fifth of Government Building programme is in hands of Ministry of Works and Building: this includes bulk of work for Ministry of Supply and smaller proportion for Admiralty, Ministry of Aircraft Production, and Ministry of Agriculture. M.O.W.B. employs about 300 private architects. Policy is to have permanent staff of technicians related to constant stream of demand and employ independent architects for extras. Private architects at present chiefly employed on hostels for Ministry of Agriculture. Standard plans for these prepared in M.O.W.B. Architect in conjunction with M.O.W.B. and War Agricultural Committee chooses site—a choice which must be approved by 14 separate bodies

D E C E M B E R

116. Committees and Appointments

Panel appointed by M.O.W.B. with assistance of Federation of Employers and Workers' organizations in building and civil engineering contracting industries:

To advise him on all problems arising out of establishment of Government scheme for payment by results on Essential Works. Intended to refer to Panel all questions raised from sites in regard to the scheme where any matter of policy or interpretation is involved; and as a result of the decisions of the Panel is hoped to create in time a code that will be understood and operated throughout the country. Members of Panel:—

By the National Federation of Building Trade Employers—H. C. Harland, G. H. Parker, T. L. Wallis.

By the National Federation of Building Trade Operatives—R. Coppock, L. Fawcett, J. W. Stephenson, B. Sandcock.

By the Federation of Civil Engineering Contractors—G. M. Burr, A. M. Holbein, and H. T. Holloway.

By Civil Engineering Conciliation Board (Operatives)—T. Pugh and H. Bullock, (alternative) C. L. Skinner.

Independent Quantity Surveyor—G. T. W. Fairbrass (Messrs. Cordroy and Co.).

(including the repair of war damage), maintenance of premises, decoration, demolition, protection of premises against hostile attack.

Position after January 1, 1942: no operation, consisting of work of any or all of above categories (excluding maintenance), permitted in United Kingdom if total cost of such operations exceeds £100 unless a licence to carry out such work has first been obtained from a Regional Licensing Officer of the Ministry of Works and Buildings.

In addition, no work as above-mentioned (including maintenance) may be carried out on any single property in United Kingdom if cost of such work, together with the cost of any other such work carried out on that single property during 12 months immediately preceding, exceeds sum of £100, unless a licence has first been obtained in respect of such work. 12 months' period will be reckoned as the 12 months immediately preceding the date of application, position as regards Local and Highway Authorities and Public Utility Undertakings unchanged.

including various Ministries, local authorities and Council for Preservation of Rural England. This settled architect may express preference for contractor but Ministry receives tenders, places contract and supplies materials. Supervision on site is entrusted to architect but approval of extras together with all other questions affecting cost are referred to Treasury. The duty of certifying that construction is sound and economical lies with Directorate for Economy of Design. R.I.B.A. has agreed to special scale of charges for work of this type, in many ways similar to that of a clerk of works. Large part of work for Ministry of Supply consists in providing funds and approving plans for privately-owned factories. About three-quarters of all factory building in country is probably controlled by them. Altogether perhaps one-fifth of work handled by M.O.W.B. is in hands of independent professional men, architects and engineers. M.O.W.B. controls special repair service of about 5,000 men and employs contract labour force of just under 90,000. Control over civil buildings is exercised by virtue of defence regulations, which make licence from Regional Officer of M.O.W.B. necessary for building operations costing more than certain sum. Figure several times reduced now stands at £100 spent on any one property within twelve months (including repair of air-raid damage, decoration and maintenance). M.O.W.B. has no rationing system for materials but Directorate for Economy of Design checks use of steel and timber by examining plans; also undertakes research on substitute materials and economical design in conjunction with Building Research Station. (M.O.W.B. is responsible for field work; B.R.S. is used for laboratory experiments. B.R.S. has permanent liaison officer and office at M.O.W.B. and a representative on every committee concerned with work of this type. (Hugh Beaver is on Board of Building Research Station to secure reciprocity). In addition to Directorate for Economy of Design, Ministry has Director of Standardization. T. S. Tait working on reduction and simplification of standard parts: for list of other directors of materials, etc., see page 33. Ministry's control over labour has been strengthened by Registration of Builders (JOURNAL, September 4) and by Registration of Building Labour employed on maintenance (still in progress). B.I.N.C. now invited to collaborate in collecting information about present organization of industry—number of existing federations, number and type of members, etc. For work of Central Council, see Refresher on page D.

122. Barry's Plans Found

Repair of the House of Commons, severely damaged by enemy action, made possible by discovery of Barry's plans for House of Commons in loft of an architect, Charles Marshall, 20, Burden Lane, Cheam. Marshall was a student in office of Edward Barry in 1880 when Sir Charles Barry died. Rather than destroy all his father's drawings Edward Barry gave permission to his pupils to select and keep whatever they felt sufficiently interested in to carry away. Marshall

Minister of Labour and National Service (after consultation with M.O.W.B.) made a new Order to assist him in ensuring that building and civil engineering labour is placed where it is most required and that it is used economically in the national interest and as fairly as may be to all concerned.

Object: to ensure that an employer did not collect and transfer

from one job to another a labour force to which he had no exclusive

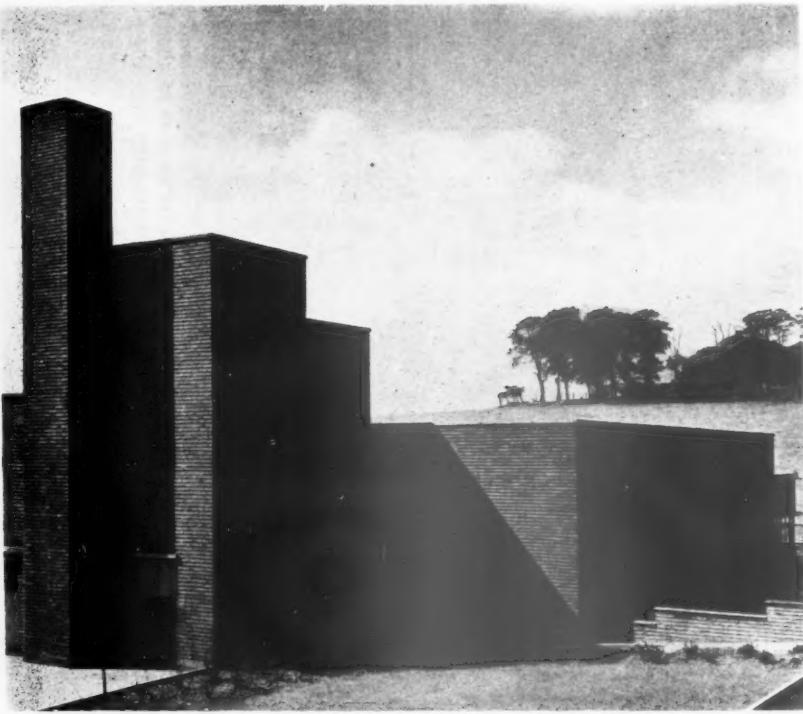
availled himself largely of this opportunity and his

assistant to war factories in matters arising out of damage

to his

Timber Controller released Colin Darby in order that he could take up position of Senior Deputy Director in Home Grown Timber Production Department.

Director of Industrial Electrical Equipment set up an Area Organization to give advice and



Wester Auchengeich Colliery Baths, Lanarkshire. By the Miners' Welfare Commission.

THE YEAR'S WORK

[BY PROFESSOR C. H. REILLY]

On this and following three pages we print Professor Reilly's review of the buildings of 1941; illustrations of the buildings discussed by the author appear on pages 36-59.

WHEN I undertook once more, and as a final effort—how often have I said that!—to write about the year's work, I imagined that this time I should have some half-dozen half-forgotten buildings at most to describe and criticize, probably ones which ought to have been illustrated years before but had somehow escaped. The result, however, is nothing of the kind. If I have not the usual mountain of illustrations before me to select from I have still a good pile. Work must have been going on in a good many places after the £100 restriction came into force. Of course it has been going on all the time for war purposes. Never, I suppose, has there been so much building in the country as during the last eighteen months, and certainly never before has the general public known so little about it. Nothing has been illustrated. What are the war-factories, war-hostels, war-houses really like? Are they as bad as some rumours say

or as good as others? What are the great windowless buildings relying entirely on artificial daylight like inside? Has the latter reached a stage which means another revolution in building and perhaps the biggest of all? Directly peace comes I suppose we shall know. What feasts the architectural papers will then have for us, digestible or otherwise! We may have the shock of our lives and find, while we have been immobilized with no petrol, England has been well sprinkled with government houses and hostels. Knowing some of the names associated with the work I rather hope it has and that for years to come these buildings will satisfy the admirable craving to enjoy the country as well as the town which has nevertheless been the main cause up till now of the destruction of both.

SCHOOLS

The chief heap of illustrations to judge by mere size is that of new schools.

I think, however, it is the chief heap in other ways, too. In no type of building has modern architecture with its wide welcome to light and air done so much good. The modern school spread out with long ranges of classrooms getting the maximum of these delights, when such classrooms are used at all and the class is not held out of doors in the equivalent space provided alongside, are as different as can be imagined from the stuffy dark structures with their ecclesiastical smell one has known as schools but rarely ventured into. It is not only the sun and air and space and proper lavatories but the bright clean colours everywhere and the absence of dirty-looking dados of glazed brick. If modern architecture had done nothing else, if everywhere else it had been as successfully resisted as it has say by the bankers, the revolution it has brought about in School design would have justified it. It is right that frankness and truth should surround the young. Bankers so placed would clearly be uncomfortable. Their world of make-believe calls for other qualities. Let them beware though. America has already built one grand modern bank, the Pennsylvania Savings Bank in Philadelphia by Howe and Lescaze. They yet may have to shed their Corinthian columns and live in purity.

To return to the schools. There are four good ones but without complete plans and sections it would be presumptuous to place them in any order. There are two at Stoke-on-Trent by the same architect, Mr. J. R. Piggott, and his chief assistant, Mr. W. I. Watson. One is always prejudiced in favour of the work of an architect who gives his assistant's name in this way. One school at Meir with long ranges of low buildings largely glass, a tower and a grand paved terrace for drilling, is a mixed junior and infants' school for 600 children. It appears from the photographs to be near a housing estate, which, though of the usual municipal pattern, looks quite silly behind it. The children should live in the school with its fine simple shapes instead of in the houses and use the latter for games.

The other school by the same architect is called the Carmountside Senior School. This is a mixed school for 480 scholars to be extended to 720. It has the same simplicity as the other school but with an even finer spread of buildings. Here several of the buildings, such as the assembly block, have great continuous windows on both sides. In both schools there is not only a fine spacious layout but excellent use has been made of the slopes in the ground for wide effective-looking terraces. The brickwork of the schools looks clean and sharp as it should be in buildings with such expanses of glass, but I see in the notes that the bricks used are called "multicoloured rustics." There is clearly something

wrong there. I expect they are nothing of the kind.

At Belfast there is a new elementary school with the interesting name of "The Botanic Elementary School" though that does not seem to have affected the design. It is to accommodate 550 students and is by Mr. R. S. Wiltshire. This is on a much smaller site with the result that the school is built round a courtyard into which look one set of classrooms on the upper floor. The other classrooms face a public park. The courtyard is paved and terraced so that it can be used as an open-air Assembly Hall, while there is a large terrace on the roof for the younger children. Provision for as much open-air life as possible has therefore been made and the plan appears to me as good as the site allows. In addition to this the detail with its slight Regency flavour is everywhere rather charming.

The fourth school is at Ecclesfield in Yorkshire, a mixed one for 280 children on a 10½-acre site by Messrs. Tait and Lorne. (I have purposely left out Sir John Burnet's name. I think when architects die, however great they may have been in their lifetime, they should be allowed to rest in peace and not be made uncomfortable by the superior work their successors are doing.) With 10½ acres this school can naturally be well spread out. An interesting point is the fan-shaped Assembly Hall, so placed that it can be used for other purposes when the school is closed. The most interesting thing, however, about the design is that it is a steel frame one with the buildings everywhere raised above the ground, in most places sufficiently high to form covered playgrounds. The steel frame means, too, movable partitions inside and the fine liquidity that implies. Here the external walls are rendered in a cement made bright with Derbyshire spar, making an admirable frame for the great expanses of glass and one, in my opinion, far superior to brickwork however non-rustic.

Finally, and though only discovered since I said there were four schools, there has suddenly appeared in the *Architectural Review* for December a perfectly delightful Infants' School at Castleford in Yorkshire by Oliver Hill. A friend told me that once more he had designed a school and had received nothing for it. I knew that out of the kindness of his heart and to secure a great departure in school design, which he felt important, he had once done this for the London County Council. This time on enquiry he tells me, however, it was different, merely that the fees received did not cover the cost of the consultants and the extra copies of drawings where everything had to be sent out for competitive tenders. This nevertheless is clearly wrong. Even when the end is an Oliver Hill School such means are not justified. The

R.I.B.A. should see that a rich county like the West Riding and all other authorities pay properly. I am sure the West Riding would be willing to do so if the case were put to them. Indeed if my experience of their liberality in Architectural Scholarships for which I used to examine, is any guide, they are the most generous county in educational matters in the country. It is particularly important, too, in their case that proper fees should be charged, for they have bravely gone out of their way to employ young outside architects like Denis Clarke-Hall, who presumably would be less able to work for nothing than an established artist of Oliver Hill's reputation. It happens often enough that an educational authority or other body having an official architect of its own will not go to the extra expense of employing an independent one when nevertheless there is a good case for doing so. That happened over the famous Impington Village College by Walter Gropius and Maxwell Fry, but in that case before the matter was settled a group of admirers of both Gropius and Fry, among them several architects, agreed to pay their fees in order that the work might go on. That clearly was a different matter.

Like so much of Oliver Hill's work the beauty of this school lies in the use he has made of curves. Here he has set out his whole building, a string of classrooms with verandas in front and wide corridor and Assembly Hall behind, on a curve. The long lines of the veranda, punctuated by its groups of widely-spaced columns, and emphasized by the row of small square windows ventilating the classrooms above, and the overhang of the main roof sweeping round and ending in a curved covered playground, make a quiet, happy, independent-looking building in which it can be imagined an architect with Oliver Hill's sense of colour decoration has made delightful rooms. The tiny furniture of course helps the scale but Hill has called in artists like John Skeaping to assist him. The result as seen in the *Architectural Review* photographs is, to my thinking, the happiest-looking school building as well as the most beautiful shown for many a year.

Next to schools in the modern manner, a new building at Cambridge is appropriate and not only because it is an educational building. It is unbelievably in the modern manner, too. At last a college at one of the older universities has dared to put up a contemporary building, and everyone—I mean every one who counts—who has seen it likes it, and one professor I know who is living in it, and who has a Jacobean Manor-house of his own of which he is very proud, says he is most comfortable and happy there. It is the new building towards

the river which Peterhouse has erected to the designs of H. C. Hughes and Peter Bicknell. It is right that the college which, though the oldest, was the first to install under Lord Kelvin its own electric lighting plant, should be the first to adopt contemporary architecture. Alas my own college, Queens', nearly, almost equally old, has recently indulged in imitation Tudor! Of course the strange thing is everyone will soon be saying how well these new buildings look and how little strange they seem even with their rather phallic-looking lighthouse on the roof. That certainly is a feature tempting Providence. All the rest, the long low windows suiting the low rooms which the vertical ones never can, the long stretches of plain brickwork, will seem very quickly natural enough. The danger point was where the new buildings join the old but that has been got over very cleverly with the aid of a columned loggia, cloister I suppose I ought to call it in these surroundings.

OFFICE BUILDINGS

There is only one office building worth considering this year but that is the offices of the Orient Steam Navigation Company by Brian O'Rorke and Powell, McConnell and Mansfield, his associated Australian partners. If it is the only serious office building this year it is only right to say it would probably be the best in any average year. It is a splendid, clean-cut thing standing out in grand contrast to its neighbours. Sir Edwin Lutyens often gives us to-day a good plain block like this running through five or six storeys with the regular plain fenestration that the steel frame implies, but then, above that, he returns to curved pavilions and his playful renaissance fancies, charming in themselves and delightfully detailed but quite at variance, in my opinion, with the plain mass below and the rectangular bones within. Here the architects have the same regular fenestration, if with slightly longer windows, but with strong rectangular finishes with well-marked horizontal lines corresponding to the steel above and below. But the truthfulness of this building to its construction is further shown by the great window at the first-floor level above the canopy which extends below two of the upper windows and three piers. Clearly there must be something strange in the steel construction here, and there is. To provide the fine-looking booking hall running through two storeys and yet to space the stanchions comfortably for the office rooms above, cantilevers parallel to the street had to be introduced above the first floor and here they are exhibited in the fenestration. The more I think of it in my old age and having held the reverse in my youth when, like Ruskin with his

emphasis on decorative details, I used to say of architecture "the clothes are the man," which is indeed true of a great deal of renaissance work, the more sure I am that any deliberate lie to the major facts of construction is inadmissible. One does not want to indicate the minor subsidiary facts any more than the human body does but in this age of steel we have too long pretended our buildings had no bones when it was bones that held them up. Mr. O'Rorke's and his partners' building, then, in spite of at first appearing to have almost the ordinary renaissance palazzo fenestration, has really something much more truthful and subtle. It is carried out, too, with the care and elegance we are accustomed to in Mr. O'Rorke's liners. The long windows for instance are lined with their slabs of Portland stone—the first in Australia—to go white when the main sandstone facing darkens, while the lower two storeys are lined with travertine and a local stone equally expressively arranged. The interior, especially in the vestibule and booking-office, needless to say have the restrained modern yet individual and decorative notes of the Orient boats.

CHURCHES

Strange as it may seem to some churches form one of the most important groups of new buildings this year and I am glad to say there is this time, as in most years, a fine new one by Edward Maufe. There are a good many illustrations too of the chancel of his great cathedral at Guildford looking very fine and big under its coating of scaffolding and rather less so with that removed. A grand sculptured figure by the late Eric Gill over an arch is revealed, a foretaste of the sculptural interest Maufe, almost alone among church architects to-day, always excepting Sir Giles Scott and F. X. Velarde, gets into his work. I am sure, provided he is allowed to have his way, Guildford Cathedral will not only have the elegant lines we all know so well, lines already boldly but crudely copied into two new cathedrals in the Antipodes, but will be enriched and vivified by a great deal of fine, severe, but all the more moving, sculpture and other enrichment, carved or coloured or both. That is the Maufe's forte and that is where Guildford, the powers consenting, will excel its far bigger sister at Liverpool. Liverpool has plenty of enrichment and plenty of sculpture but unfortunately neither of the finest quality, grand as the scale and general conception is.

The Maufe church this time is at Hook in Hampshire. It is a plain brick and tile church with a high pitch roof, no aisles and a tall Maufe-like tower. It has long windows and externally a lean elegance I find very

attractive. Internally, where I am sure there is charming colour, there appears to be a mission-hall simplicity almost like that of the lovely Quaker meeting house at Jordans, which may prove that the finest quality can co-exist with the baldest form and without a touch of sordidness provided the work is by an artist with sufficient sensibility. If only our Wesleyans, Baptists, Congregationalists and all the band of brothers would understand this, how different our towns would be! Wales, of course, we should not recognize.

There is a big new church at Gloucester by W. E. Ellery Anderson. It is a fully-aisled church with stone piers to the nave arcade, a tall campanile tower and a rather elaborate brick and tile exterior, and yet seating 500 it only cost £10,000. That these days is a great achievement. The interior, spacious looking and plain, with round arches to the windows and to the nave arcades and with a big arch at the entrance to the chancel, is plain and strong and imposing. One cannot be quite sure from the architecture the exact brand of religion practised in it but some may think that an advantage.

HOUSES

The next batch in importance—perhaps it should have come earlier—are the houses, all contemporary in design and all consequently interesting. How dull neo-Georgian is becoming even when touched up from Sweden!

The most exciting of the new houses with its spectacular view from the outside through great sheets of glass of an elegantly-curved staircase, down which a beauty chorus ought to trip, one has seen before. It is the house at Birdham in Sussex in two parallel blocks connected by the staircase hall by Messrs. Davies and Moro. This house is larger than most modern ones and is therefore interesting in that it should show how modern simplicity and directness can be adapted to other forms of life than that in shorts and sun-bathing suits. Here one should live in real comfort and elegance with rooms that march from one to another through double doors and where vistas are closed with curved ends and something which might be a vast bed placed at the end of a long axis. I thought it was the ground-floor plan which is illustrated but I see it is the bedroom one, which is even more interesting. If order and stateliness are returning, then contemporary design has moved on. When, however, one looks at the actual photographs of the living-rooms the elegance and order suggested by the plan and the serpentine staircase are not so evident. The unrelated untidiness of so many modern interiors is still there.

The house at North Ferriby in

Yorkshire by Messrs. Martin and Speight is more consistent in its functionalism. It is a house with a view and there is a long balcony to the first floor facing it. This balcony however has its ends closed, or partially so, by the end walls of the house, wisely projected, I imagine, to keep the draughts away. If the balcony looks south these walls therefore spoil the view east and west. Now the usual guest in room number 26, at no particular point on the plan, does not seem to be content with this. He or she wants to see east or west as well. Hence quite functionally near the door to this particular bedroom has been projected on heavy cantilevers a special balcony stretching out beyond the general one. It seems to me this has been done regardless of the general suavity of the design, and is a case of functionalism carried *ad absurdum*. There is still another break on this front. Two small bedrooms, Nos. 22 and 23, being a little set back, and so further under the broad eaves which are carried through regardless of breaks, are presumably a little dark in spite of their continuous windows. The eaves here are therefore pierced and skylights have been let in. Once again the rhythm of the long front has been, so it seems to me, rather ruthlessly disturbed. I feel both these desired effects could perhaps have been obtained a little more gently by some slight alterations in the plan.

The same architects have achieved at Dockray in Cumberland, however, an extension of a smallish country house which was itself an extension of a little rough stone shepherd's cottage, which, while frank and truthful and modern, is yet very sensitively joined to the surrounding work. The new stone walling matches the old and the stones have clearly been carefully selected. The new work to the main front is mainly an inset panel of white windows and cedar infilling and its stark frankness is its salvation. The interior on the ground floor is one large room on two levels with a curious fireplace consisting of a long low rectangle of exposed stone walling about 4 feet high and 8 feet long and just not parallel to the range of windows in the opposite wall which it faces. This desire to break up the rectangularity of rooms I am not young enough to understand. I fancy it would drive me mad, but it is I suppose part of the same craving for freedom, for which in other spheres we are fighting the war.

The little house with a roof sloping from front to back with broad eaves and two continuous rows of windows at Harrow Weald by Frederick Macmanus looks very pleasant and welcoming on the outside but here too, for no reason except the one just mentioned, the dividing partition which ordinarily is parallel to the back and front wall of such a rectangular building

is not so placed with the result that every room is cock-eye. I should be very interested to know whether life is really happy under these circumstances and whether children, if any, are growing up normally.

Under these domestic buildings one should include, I think, the very pleasant little Zachary Merton Convalescent Home at Merton, in Surrey, by the President of the R.I.B.A., W. H. Ansell, M.C. It is nice that he should be represented at all this year when we all know he has been so ill though we are all glad to hear he is getting better. This is not a "modern" building in the special sense of the term but a very welcoming one which appears admirably to fit its site. There are fine big windows to the wards getting all the sun and a straightforward sensible plan. There is a certain dignity to the whole and when classical detail is used, as in the crowning *flèche* and the doorway in the courtyard, it is used with simplicity and discretion. It is, indeed, just the convalescent home for elderly architects like myself to recover in.

POLICE STATIONS

There are still even in this depleted war-time year a curiously large number of new police stations. I remember calling attention to them three years ago when the London ones, some half-dozen or so, all included vast barracks. Not being very happy about the pre-war situation I could not help feeling that their size and aggressiveness suggested some semi-fascist regime about to be introduced here. Fortunately we are now fighting fascism abroad for all we are worth but I am still not clear why peaceable democrats at home should require suddenly so much additional looking after as these new police buildings suggest. These new ones just erected are fortunately not so big or aggressive. The chief is the one at Leyton on a corner site by Julian Leathart. This is of good, plain, pleasant semi-modern architecture with fine fields of plain brickwork obtained largely, I suppose, through top lighting, and through the series of widely-spaced small circular windows. Perhaps these latter indicate the cells for the democrats. At the corner is a plain Dudok type of tower with a long staircase window with stone mullions on one side. This is certainly one of the pleasanter of the new stations. There is dignity and reserve about its clean lines. When I am next run in I hope I shall be taken there.

Another large new police station is that at Watford by Messrs. Cook and Twist. This was the result of a small competition in 1936 and contains a law courts block and administration building but whether it contains these happily or not one cannot tell. No

plans are given of these police buildings. All one can therefore say of this neo-Georgian group is that it looks pleasant. The range of doorways to one block must mean living quarters and probably the larger block is the law courts, but whatever it is, what are the outside shutters for to the ground-floor windows? What nefarious things go on behind them which ordinary blinds are not sufficient to hide? I expect they are there to suggest domesticity but why to the downstairs rooms and only now and then to an upper one? No, it cannot be that, it must just be because the architects felt like it. I know that feeling. When I was young I always put occasional shutters to my buildings to buck them up a bit. I see I have been looking at the back all the time, not the front. No wonder I liked it! Backs of buildings are often so much more truthful than their fronts. In this case there are no particular falsehoods about the front. It is not overloaded. It does not suggest police courts are pleasant places of entertainment but still I like the back better.

There is a police station in Jerusalem by Erich Mendelsohn, very expressive with its row upon row of cell windows one above the other and then a series of plain returns. If one has to have police buildings I think they ought to look like them. This certainly does. No, it is not one after all. It is a bank in a hot country.

PUBLISHING HOUSE

There is a large publishing house in Bradford by Messrs. Chippindale and Edmondson which certainly has a bank front with tall fluted columns and all, a Scottish bank front, I suggest, with that restrained sense of display which is their characteristic. But why should a warehouse for a publishing firm, even if it is a Fine Art one, hide its business and warehouse character in this way? We are no longer living in the 19th century and going to work each day in symbolic tall hats. The real warehouse, when one gets to it, is good honest stuff and there is plenty of it to be effective in itself without this dressing-up of the offices round the front entrance. Offices, one imagined, especially in a smoky manufacturing town, needed light, and not to have their windows hidden behind a colonnade. I am afraid it is

all due to the blessed words "Fine Art." What well-meaning absurdities have been committed for their sake from the Albert Memorial onwards!

THEATRE

A new Greek open-air theatre looking to the sea and mountain and with its seats hewn out of the solid rock, where could such a thing be made to-day but in Ireland? It is at Achill Island, Co. Mayo, and was arranged, I purposely do not say designed, by Noel Moffett. It looks a glorious place. May we all see worthy plays there after victory.

SHOPS

The temporary shops at Coventry by D. E. Gibson are first rate and the real thing belonging to a real world. How good they are in their simple way with the expressive fluting of their corrugated-iron fronts and the overhanging roofs, their small windows and the continuous frieze with the same lettering running over all! Perhaps we are all going to be gentlefolk, or try to be, after the war. This is certainly a good start.

PITHEAD BATHS

Finally there are once more some illustrations of the finest range of modern buildings in the country, the Pithead Baths and Recreation Buildings put up by the able group of architects J. H. Forshaw collected and supervised. We have been looking at modern schools and houses and all the rest of it but these buildings when one comes across them are always better than any. They seem, too, to follow some inner spiritual light of their own, for their functionalism never leads them into gaucherie. That gives me great happiness for London, now this old Liverpool man—I cannot be expected not to mention that—is as all the world knows the Chief Architect to the London County Council and responsible for the New Plan of London and I hope, too, a great many of the new buildings.

The buildings mentioned by Professor Reilly in his article are illustrated in the Diary on pages 36-59.

ASTRAGAL'S



House of Commons, May, 1941.

REVIEW OF 1941

JANUARY



The Journal's Printers.

The smell of smoke still hung acrid in the London air of the first morning of 1941. Dust and rubble carpeted the streets around St. Paul's, and broken glass glittered and

tinkled in the gutters beneath the feet of office workers picking their way between the blackened buildings. To many of them the gaunt fantastic shapes and strange calcined colours of a blitzed city were by now a familiar sight—romantic, perhaps, to a few, tragic to many, tiresome to all.

accelerated by the serious shortage of architects. The greatest demand was for the younger and more active members of the profession, the large majority of whom had been called up.

★

A broad, the Greeks were advancing in Albania and the British in Libya. Lord Halifax was on his way to the United States and Mr. Wendell Wilkie on his way to Great Britain.

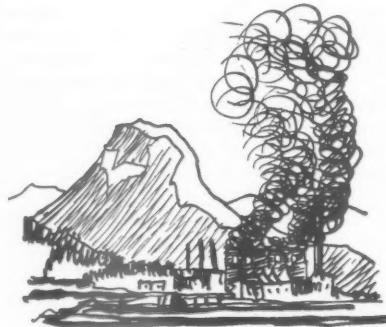
FEBRUARY

A request for the reservation of architects over 33 years of age was rejected by the Government. The Archbishops set up a commission to deal with the problem of bombed churches, and Mr. Frank Pick was appointed O.C. Britain's Canals.

★

In the U.S.A. the Lease-Lend Act was being debated, and in a Sofia café a German drunk threw a bottle at the American Minister. A quiet month.

MARCH



Lofoten Islands.

The Ministry of Information announced the setting up of a National Building Record under the able directorship of Messrs. Walter Godfrey & John Summerson. The United States Navy Department announced the successful conclusion of their housing programme, in which prefabrication on a large scale survived its test triumphantly. A bomb in Buckingham Palace

*Among the minor victims of this raid were the January 2 issue of the ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL and Astragal's Review of the Year 1940.

revealed some curious constructional deceipts by John Nash.

*
Abroad, the Lease-Lend Act became law, there was a raid on the Lofoten Islands, Bulgaria yielded and Yugo-Slavia decided to resist.

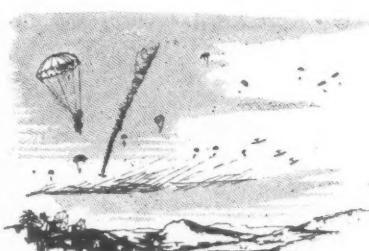
A P R I L

The Government announced the reservation of architects at the age of 35. A large part of the destroyed area around St. Paul's had by now been cleared of wreckage, and the popular press, bemused apparently by the sudden opening-out of their neighbourhood, once more began to talk about "Wren's plan." In the belief that as few people had ever actually seen this plan as had read the Versailles Treaty, the ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL reproduced a portion of it, and pointed out rather acidly that photographs taken since the Blitz seemed to hint that St. Paul's was not improved by exposure.

*
Apart from the capture of Addis Ababa, the war news for the Allies deteriorated. After a gallant struggle, Albania, Greece and Yugo-Slavia were over-run and the British retreat from Libya began.

*
In a severe raid on London St. Paul's, Chelsea Parish Church and Wren's Royal Hospital were damaged.

M A Y



Crete.

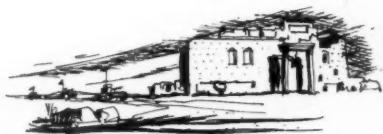
All events in this month (and they were mostly unpleasant) were over-

shadowed by the parachute arrival in this country of Herr Hess. What was his purpose, which Duke he sought, was not revealed (nor was to be), and the press, confused by indecision, indulged in orgies of speculation. Adulation was countered with abuse, and it was commonly observed that the first crack had appeared in the hollow Nazi façade. Comment eventually died down, but a permanent interest was to be maintained by the public in what sort of food Hess was being supplied with.

*
The Meikle-Maufe copyright case opened, and in a heavy air-raid on London, Queen's Hall, Westminster Abbey and the Houses of Parliament suffered damage.

*
Rebellion broke out in Iraq, Crete was successfully captured by the air-borne troops of the Nazis, and the *Bismarck* was sunk.

J U L Y

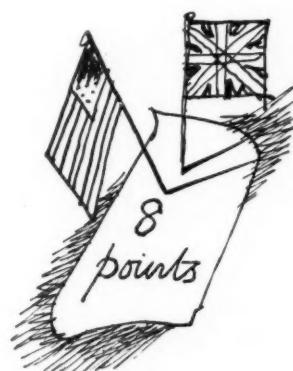


Syria.

The architectural events of this month which included the setting up of Reith's Triumvirate are dealt with elsewhere. The first example of an American prefabricated building to reach this country—the Harvard Hospital Unit—was disappointingly dull both in technique and appearance.

*
Iceland was occupied by U.S. troops, Syrian resistance collapsed, and on the Russian front "the region of Smolensk" featured daily in the news.

A U G U S T



J U N E

The Ministry of Works and Buildings announced the establishment of two standard brick sizes, and architects were officially informed that their drawings were not insurable under the War Damage Act. An excellent exhibition, "Living in Cities," was produced by the 1940 Council.

*
Abroad, the rebellion in Iraq was overcome, the Allies entered Syria, and on June 22 Germany invaded Russia—a long-expected event which threw left and right wings alike into a fearful flap. Perhaps the greatest confusion reigned at the B.B.C. where the question as to whether the Red Flag should be played with the anthems of our other allies was solved in the end by cutting out the whole feature. A true British compromise.

Judgment was pronounced in the Meikle-Maufe case. Breach of copyright was established but damages assessed at only £150. For the future of architecture the decision was disturbing and promises many difficulties for any architect commissioned to design an extension to an existing building.

*
Mr. Churchill and Mr. Roosevelt met "Somewhere in the Atlantic" to frame and sign the Eight-Point Charter. The British people seemed to evince more interest in Mr.

Churchill's safe return than in the clauses of this document, which appeared to deal more with the future than with the present.

★

British and Soviet troops entered Iran, and the famous Dnieper Dam, symbol of Russian industrialisation, was courageously destroyed by our retreating Allies.

SEPTEMBER



The Government announced the reservation of architectural assistants at the age of 35, and appointed War Damage Deputy Commissioners.

★

Confusion over our sudden alliance with the ex-bogeyman was dying down or being dispelled by admiration at the stubborn and skilful resistance shown by the Russian people. Cabinet Ministers, however, and other nabobs who should at least have known the value of keeping quiet, continued to make tactless or offensive speeches, which later forced Mr. Churchill to take (as the R.A.F. say) "avoiding action" in the House.

★

British bombing attacks on enemy increased in intensity. Despite the loss of Kiev, our allies fought on bravely, there was a raid on Spitzbergen and Mr. Roosevelt announced his "Shoot-First" policy—a slogan which appeared at first to be taken a little too literally by the Nazis.

OCTOBER

Shortage of paper had by now reduced the press to an almost Balkan frailty, but columns were still handed over to Military Experts who in smudgy print, spoke weightily of pincers, claws, wedges and always, oh *always*, of those lengthening lines of communication.

★

Lord Beaverbrook and Mr. Harriman flew to Moscow, and Hitler

announced that the Russian Campaign was virtually over.

NOVEMBER



Libya.

The A.A.S.T.A. held a rather inconclusive conference on Wartime Building, and the ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL rearranged its editorial pages.

★

The long-demanded second-front was opened with an offensive in Libya, and the Neutrality Act was repealed by a narrow majority. Mr. Churchill announced that the mirage of air parity had become reality, and a Colonel wrote to *The Times* protesting against the threat to the nation's food supply caused by the recent W.O. decision to forbid the employment of soldiers as beaters. Game birds, as everyone knows, are the staple diet of the British people, and soldiers on leave, as everyone knows too, will do anything for a Colonel.

DECEMBER

In the sweeping man-power reforms which were announced for the New Year by the Prime Minister, block reservation of architects (and everyone else) ceased to exist. The preliminary results of the building census revealed the astonishing fact that there were 86,500 separate firms in the industry but that most of them only possessed an average staff of three workers each. Evidently the little man had not yet been eliminated from the scene.

★

The Germans were at the gates of Moscow, but on the southern front they were, for the first time in this war, retreating. The Libyan

battle was still in full swing, for this was no Wavell walk-over, and General Tojo was no longer at the cross-roads, for at last the U.S.A., Great Britain, the Netherlands and China were at war with Japan.

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Finally, without giving the items under the monthly headings, the deaths took place of Gunnar Asplund, C. F. A. Voysey, Frank Pick and Robert Byron.

The Building Industry



The collapse of France and the sharpening of the Blitz found the industry nearly 50 per cent. below strength and ill-organized for its part in the war effort. The slogan "First on the Job" was often only too true, and it seemed to be unusual for contractors on Government work to be preceded on the site by proper surveys and drawings. Such comfort as the industry could gather from the $\frac{1}{2}d.$ an hour wages rise in the New Year must have been swiftly dispelled by the appalling disclosures (made by the Select Committee on National Expenditure) of waste, extravagance and mismanagement on Government building contracts—still for the most part handed out on a cost-plus

basis to the country's biggest contracting firms.

In an effort to speed up output, a new Emergency Works Order was introduced by the Government in June. This was designed to keep control of wages, dismissal and absenteeism. Later a system of bonuses was augmented, and a uniformity agreement was set up to stop labour migration. Further official measures taken were the restriction of private building over the value of £100 and the voluntary (later compulsory) registration of all building firms.

Limited piecework was authorized and in August a National Building Council was established to represent the industry and act in an advisory capacity. Thus a rival body to B.I.N.C. was set up by the very Ministry for whose creation B.I.N.C. had so long petitioned. Despite all these measures and the assistance of a desperate publicity campaign, the industry was still doing badly, output per man-hour was low and departmental control chaotic. The manoeuvres of contractors for post-war positions instead of for profits, lack of trained supervision, and the irresponsibility which often accompanies the change from fees to salaries were further indications of the industry's ill-health. Blame for the year's mistakes can probably be equally divided, but post-mortems of this kind are without value if no remedy ensues.

On the whole the industry cannot look back with satisfaction upon 1941, and it faces a new year which bristles with fresh difficulties—among them a drastic call-up of labour. However, the Government has shown by its various measures—registration, the N.B.C., etc., that it, too, is aware of the extent and nature of the problems, and the outlook is brighter than it was this time last year. Now, at least, we do know of what the industry consists and of what it is capable.

If Government control and reorganization is correctly based upon this knowledge, the industry should be able to face the problems of the future with confidence.

Reconstruction



already incubating in the offices of Borough Engineers, and land speculation was still a popular racket. What steps towards solution have been taken during 1941? Quite a number, and most of them indicating a sane and objective approach to the problem.

In February Lord Reith "warned off" city speculators, and the R.I.B.A. set up a Reconstruction Committee. Its membership was revised, after some criticism, and it was split up into a series of sub-committees, Housing, Planning, Technical, etc.

In April Lord Reith announced the names of his chief technical advisers, Professor Holford, Mr. Dower and Mr. Vincent, and stated that after a study of the Uthwatt Report and those test plans now in preparation for certain blitzed cities, legislation for compensation and betterment would be introduced. It was clear that this statement assumed the eventual setting-up by the Government of a Central Planning Authority. When, however, the Uthwatt Report was officially answered in July, this authority was not granted, and instead a triumvirate consisting of Lord Reith, the Minister of Health and the Secretary for Scotland was appointed "to explore the problem." Legislation was also promised to prevent profiteering by private land-owners.

In an excellent memorandum the R.I.B.A. recommended machinery for the public acquisition of land, and suggested two methods for recovering betterment. One, the surrender of a portion of the property to compensate for its increased value; two, the imposition of "improvement rates."

The problem remained twofold—first the formation of a policy, second the machinery for its execution. Its urgency was emphasized by the news that preliminary planning schemes for blitzed areas were

*Perhaps the smallest and most modest of these was that composed of Mr. Greenwood and his staff of "one assistant and an office-boy."

A good press also rewarded the reports of the Housing and the Planning and Amenities Sub-Committees, and, in the autumn, the Building Legislation Sub-Committee drew attention to the multitude of acts and authorities, often conflicting, which governed building in this country. It also recommended the setting up of a National

Building Board, which would be responsible to the Government but not part of its machinery, and the framing of a National Building Code which would be kept up to date and from which there would be no exemption. The R.I.B.A. and its committees are to be congratulated on a good year's work.

In October there was a stimulating meeting of the British Association on the subject of "Science and World Order." Architecture, town-planning and building science were among the subjects examined, and the conference showed a general conviction that wider planning problems formed the foundation of reconstruction.

In November the L.C.C. published a preliminary report which had been prepared in consultation with Professor Abercrombie and included proposals for transforming dormitory suburbs into satellite towns. Building costs, according to Davis & Belfield, had gone up a third.*

Throughout the year the ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL issued stern warnings to the profession that it must not be caught napping after the war. Architects, we were told, must not sit back smugly awaiting fat commissions, they must become masters of the new problems which would await them, town-planning, new building methods, mechanical engineering, etc. How they were to do this at their posts in cockpits and blockhouses, in A.F.S. substations and in factories, the Journal did not explain. As one Sergeant-Observer (A.R.I.B.A.) remarked, they were "rather busy on other things for the moment."

*On this point I asked Mr. Davis for a note which he very kindly provided. Here it is:—

PRICES have remained remarkably stable during the year. Rates of Wages have risen by 1d. on only two occasions, and the total increase since pre-war days is, generally, less than 20%.

Lack of man-power has, however, reduced the level of efficiency, and the resulting loss of output may well have raised the increase in labour costs to about 25%. The market prices of most of the basic materials have been maintained at about the level reached at the end of 1940, but transport difficulties have increased the cost of delivery. New lorries and spare parts are now expensive and difficult to obtain. Tendering has been keen during the latter part of the year, but this has been offset by increased overhead charges brought about by the war. The necessity of using substitute materials is another important factor, but this again is often offset by the low standard of finish and decoration permitted.

These and other factors make it impossible to generalize with safety, but it is probably true to say that the cost of the average building, in which timber, steel and expensive equipment is reduced to a minimum, is about 33½% higher than in August, 1939.

Personalities



ONCE again the wartime prize for Personality of the Year goes not to an individual but to a group—to all those architects, in fact, whose personalities are temporarily submerged in the ranks of the fighting services, in civil defence or in government departments. Runners-up are the indefatigable members of the Select Committee on National Expenditure for a magnificent year's work in pursuit of waste, mismanagement, slackness and extravagance.

Astragal also doffs his tin hat to Mr. Richard Coppock for being the first trades operative to be elected president of B.I.N.C. and to Sir Banister (Flight) Fletcher for becoming president of the Authors Club; to Mr. Barry Parker for being awarded the Ebenezer Howard Medal; and to Mr. Curtis Green who receives the Royal Gold Medal; to Lord Reith, now Hon. A.R.I.B.A.; and to Mr. J. H. Forshaw, now Chief Architect to the L.C.C.; to Mr. T. S. Tait, Director of Standardisation and Mr. T. P. Bennett, Director of Works; to Mr. F. G. Baker for completing 40 years

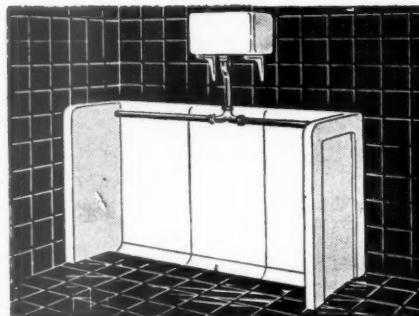
service in the R.I.B.A.; and to the Central Contracting Co., of Texas, for completing a house (not forgetting a lady in the bath) in 57 minutes (not forgetting the 58 seconds); to Mr. D. E. E. Gibson for the design of temporary shops at Coventry; and to Mr. Freddie (Fully-Fashioned) Gibberd for becoming principal of the A.A.; to Messrs. Reiach & Hurd for "Building Scotland"; and to Prof. Gideon for "Space, Time and Architecture"; to Messrs. Fitzmaurice, Arup & Holford for their addresses to the British Association; and to Messrs. Feliks Topolski and Vernon Bartlett for their reporting on Moscow; to the A.A.S.T.A. for asking so many questions, and to the B.B.C. Brains Trust for knowing so many avenues of escape; to Mr. John Summerson for not losing his head over the "Shall-we-rebuild-the-Wren-churches" controversy; to Dr. Alvar Aalto on becoming Director of the Massachusetts Technical Institution and to Mr. Ivan Soloshenko, of Moscow, who wore his gas mask for 2,300 consecutive hours, removing it only at meal-times; to the city of Liverpool whose school of architecture has produced three out of the Big Five of Post-War Planning and to the city of Rome, which is to have "the most beautiful railway station in the world"; to The Architectural Review for keeping up its standard, and to Sir Reginald Blomfield who "does not know what has become of this paper, but believes it still exists";* to the correspondent who wrote to the ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL warning the re-planners of London not to forget the demands of Ancient Lights and to Mildred Godfrey, the Flatbush fire-raiser, who set light to her parents' furniture "because it was so ugly"; to Mr. Justice "Many-a-Meikle-makes-a-Maufe" Uthwatt and to Mrs. Borders for the sake of old times; finally to Mayor (C'est-magnifique-mais-ce n'est-pas) La Guardia of New York upon his appointment as head of America's A.R.P., and to Le Corbusier who, it is reported, is to build a new Salvation Army hostel in Buenos Aires. From all we've heard of that city it won't be a moment too soon.

*See Life of Norman Shaw, by Sir Reginald Blomfield.

Sanitary Appliances

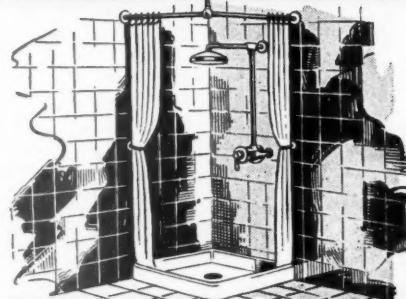
"INSTITUTE" URINAL RANGE

White glazed fireclay backs and screen-end slabs and half round channel with outlet. Galvanized cast iron automatic flushing cistern with bearers, galvanized downpipe and perforated horizontal sparge pipe with clips; galvanized domical outlet grating. The fittings may be varied as required.



SHOWER-BATH RECEIVER

White glazed fireclay Receiver with plain edge and outlet, fitted with grated waste connection. Shower fittings comprising $\frac{1}{2}$ -in. anti-scalding mixing valve, connecting pipe, shower arm with flange for fixing to wall, and 6-in. diameter shower rose. All exposed fittings chromium-plated.



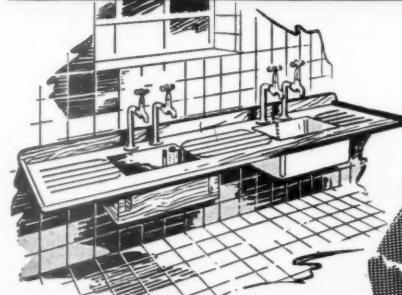
"ALDWYCH" FACTORY CLOSET SUITE

White glazed inside and buff glazed outside fireclay Closet with "S" and "P" trap, and with plain hardwood inserts seat pads. 2-gallon flushing cistern, painted cast iron, with cover and brackets, valveless siphon, ball valve, brass chain and polished hardwood pull. This specification can be modified to suit requirements.



SINK RANGE

Range of sinks comprising:— Grooved teak drainer top in one piece, one white glazed fireclay sink and one teak sink, both complete with fittings, chromium-plated bib valves and elbow standards. These ranges are specially fabricated to clients' requirements.



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White glazed fireclay "Island" ablation fountain lavatory with pedestal, foot-operated umbrella spray controlled by universal pedal ring, chromium plated central supply pillar and liquid soap dispenses. Four additional types available; particulars on request.



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CONTROL OF BUILDING MATERIALS

The Director of Roofing, Ministry of Works and Buildings, announces that :—

Roofing slates.

It must again be emphasized that no slates above those of 14 in. in length may be sold except on production of a certificate from one of the officers duly authorized, and that, in the event of slates so certified being supplied from stock held by a merchant, replacement of the amount supplied cannot be made.

Supplies of the smaller sizes can still be obtained without certificates, but in order that prior despatch may be given to consignments of small slates required for air-raid damage or other urgent needs, a certificate that they are required for such purposes can be obtained where necessary from the Assistant Director of Emergency Works or Emergency Works Officer for the area and sent with the order.

Plasterboard

As from January 15, 1942, the system of accepting certificates from local authorities is cancelled, and the following system of priority and certification applies :—

(1) *Government orders* will continue to receive first priority from the manufacturers. They must be substantiated with accurate Government contract numbers and departmental symbols. Orders within this category for quantities greater than 600 sq. yds. will be delivered only to the contract site, but smaller quantities should be supplied from merchants' stock, if any.

(2) *Orders for repair's to air-raid damage, A.R.P., general maintenance work, storm damage and other work of National importance.*—Orders within this category, of 150 sq. yds. or more, will be supplied only against an original certificate, which will be issued by the following :—

- (a) *Air raid damage (or other enemy action).*
- (b) By the A.D.E.W. or E.W.O. of the

Ministry of Works of the area concerned.

(ii) By the area officer or chairman of the Local Reconstruction Panel of the Emergency Services Organization of the Ministry of Aircraft Production for industrial buildings in which the Ministry of Aircraft Production is concerned.

(b) *Maintenance work and storm damage repairs.* By the A.D.E.W. or E.W.O. of the Ministry of Works of the area concerned.

(c) *Government buildings or buildings in which a Government department is interested.* By the local responsible official of the department concerned.

(d) *Other work of National importance.* By the A.D.E.W. or E.W.O. of the area concerned.

Orders thus certificated will receive priority after Government requirements, in the above rotation.

Concurrently with this, plasterboard being now more freely available than hitherto, a system of furnishing approved merchants with stocks, to be released against certificates, also comes into operation. All merchants on an approved list have been fully advised of the terms and conditions of the scheme, which provides, *inter alia*, for initial stocks and replacement, for minimum loads to avoid unnecessary transport, and for the keeping by the merchant of a stock record book showing all receipts into and deliveries from stock.

Such stock books, and the certificates supporting deliveries ex stock, are open for inspection at any time by certifying officers or their representatives. It is essential in the National interest that the amount of plasterboard so dispersed over any area can, in the event of an emergency, be instantly ascertained. The keeping of this stock record book must therefore be regarded as vital, and the names of merchants failing properly to

keep this record may be deleted from the approved list.

Wallboard.

Wallboard is controlled by the Paper Controller (in consultation with the Ministry of Works), Great Western Hotel, Reading. The system in force operates through licences whereby, in the case of the home-made product, merchants on the books of the manufacturers are empowered to hold stocks reusable :—

- (1) against repairs necessitated by enemy action and, subject to available supply and the furnishing of requisite certificates of the use to which the wallboard has been put, such stocks may be replenished periodically; and
- (2) against a specific authority from the Paper Control.

For Government requirements application for licences to deliver are submitted by the producer or importer concerned to the Paper Controller, whether such delivery is against direct contracts or through a merchant.

It is found that a number of the merchants holding authorized stocks fail to render periodical returns to the Paper Controller. These returns are of vital importance and should be made regularly and promptly.

As regards imported wallboard, the importers themselves disperse this in their own warehouses. Imported board is not generally dispersed amongst merchants, and hard board is released only in exceptional cases.

Asbestos cement.

To avoid the excessive strain placed upon war agricultural committees by a large number of requests for certificates from farmers requiring a few sheets of asbestos cement, it has been agreed to accept a simple declaration from farmers that the material is required for an agricultural purpose. Such declarations should be passed by the merchant to his manufacturer with his order.

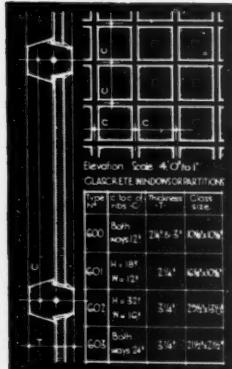
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